



27.6.2017

# **POSITION IN THE FORM OF AMENDMENTS**

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

on combating inequalities as a lever to boost job creation and growth  
(2016/2269(INI))

Rapporteur: Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz



## AMENDMENTS

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

### Amendment 1

#### Motion for a resolution

#### Recital B a (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Ba. whereas high and rising inequality hinders not only progress towards eradicating poverty, but also any efforts to enhance social inclusion and social cohesion;***

### Amendment 2

#### Motion for a resolution

#### Recital C a (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Ca. whereas women's participation in the labour market should be increased through the implementation of the existing legislation on equality between women and men and the modernisation of the current policy framework with a view to improving work-life balance;***

### Amendment 3

#### Motion for a resolution

#### Recital C a (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Ca. whereas the austerity policies requested by the Commission and implemented by the Member States, in***

*addition to the economic crisis of the past few years, have increased inequalities and have affected women in particular, exacerbating poverty among women and increasingly excluding them from the labour market;*

#### **Amendment 4**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital C b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Cb. whereas there is a positive correlation between enhanced equality between women and men and stronger economic growth, inclusiveness, job creation and business prosperity;*

#### **Amendment 5**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital C b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Cb. whereas gender equality represents a tool for combating poverty among women, as it has a positive impact on productivity and economic growth and leads to increased female participation in the labour market, which in turn has numerous social and economic benefits;*

#### **Amendment 6**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital C c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Cc. whereas equality between women and men is a key economic asset when it comes to promoting fair and inclusive economic growth, and whereas reducing occupational inequality is a means not only to achieve equal treatment but also to ensure labour market efficiency and competitiveness;*

## **Amendment 7**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital F a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Fa. whereas European strategies for the eradication of poverty are necessary for achieving sustainable development for all;*

## **Amendment 8**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital I a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Ia. whereas women are disproportionately affected by the crisis, and whereas green jobs have proven to be more crisis-resistant than others;*

## **Amendment 9**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1a.** *Deplores the austerity policies which, together with the economic crisis, are helping to increase the rate of poverty, particularly among women;*

**Amendment 10**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1a.** *Asks the Commission to evaluate to what extent growing inequalities can have an effect on the abovementioned points, and to develop a strategy to counter those threats;*

**Amendment 11**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2a.** *Calls for the introduction of a European strategy establishing national targets to reduce inequalities;*

**Amendment 12**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7a.** *Notes that the Commission has responded to its call for a better work-life balance for women and men living and working in the EU, through non-*

*legislative proposals and a legislative proposal setting out several types of leave to meet the challenges of the 21st century; stresses that the proposals put forward by the Commission are a good basis on which to boost work-life balance and flexible working arrangements for both women and men as a means to reduce inequalities in paid and unpaid work;*

### **Amendment 13**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 10 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*10a. Points out that while women represent the majority of university graduates in the EU (60 %), their employment rate and career advancement do not reflect their full potential; stresses that the achievement of inclusive and long-term economic growth depends on closing the gap between women's educational attainment and their position in the labour market, primarily by overcoming horizontal and vertical segregation in employment;*

### **Amendment 14**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 10 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*10a. Calls on the Commission to produce statistics on growing unemployment in the EU that express inequalities by age and by gender, but also indicate those between individuals living in rural and in urban areas;*

## **Amendment 15**

### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 10 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***10b. Stresses that preventing and eliminating the gender pension gap and reducing women's poverty in old age depends first and foremost on creating the conditions for women to make equal pension contributions through further inclusion in the labour market and safeguarding equal opportunities in terms of pay, career advancement and opportunities for working full-time;***

## **Amendment 16**

### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 10 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***10c. Emphasises the fact that female entrepreneurship is an important pillar of the EU economy, which is key to combating inequalities and fostering women's financial independence, and should therefore be promoted and supported, in particular through education and vocational training, the promotion of female ownership, entrepreneurs' networks, access to investment and credit, and the promotion of women's representation in managerial bodies;***

## **Amendment 17**

### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 10 d (new)**



**10d.** *Stresses the importance of further encouraging and supporting female digital entrepreneurship, as women constitute only 19 % of entrepreneurs in this sector; points out that digitalisation in the labour market offers new opportunities for entrepreneurship for women, including small-scale digital entrepreneurship, which in many cases does not require significant initial capital, and undertakings pursued within the framework of the social economy that enhance social inclusion; recommends, in this connection, that the Member States boost women and girls' e-skills, e-literacy and digital inclusion, both in the ICT sector and beyond, since an increasing number of jobs require digital skills, given that digital inclusion may be a means to combat existing wage inequalities between women and men, as salaries in jobs involving e-skills tend to be higher in general;*

**Amendment 18**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 10 e (new)**

**10e.** *Encourages Member States to consider the introduction of age-appropriate ICT education at an early stage, with a particular focus on encouraging girls to develop an interest and skills in the digital field and protecting them from restrictive and negative stereotypes;*

## **Amendment 19**

### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 11 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***11a. Calls on the Commission to dedicate special attention to young people under 30 as they are often overlooked, especially if living in regions with high unemployment rates; notes that this neglect is felt by young women living in these areas in particular;***

## **Amendment 20**

### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 11 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***11b. Calls on the Commission and Member States to emphasise the need to promote green jobs and boost employment in rural and declining areas and make them more attractive to women;***

## **Amendment 21**

### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 29 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***29a. Points out that the face of poverty in Europe is female and that it is single mothers and young and old women in particular who are affected by poverty; points out that the reduction of poverty levels by 20 million people by 2020 can be achieved through anti-poverty policies that are grounded in gender mainstreaming focused primarily on***

*increasing and supporting women's participation in the labour market;*

**Amendment 22**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 30 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**30a.** *Encourages the Member States to guarantee a decent pension provision, including a national minimum pension, to ensure that no-one – and especially not women who are already suffering on account of low pensions resulting from the pay gap during employment years – is then additionally exposed to a worse economic situation during retirement;*

**Amendment 23**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 30 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**30a.** *Points out that new technologies should be regarded as a fundamental tool for creating new jobs and an opportunity to bring women out of poverty;*

**Amendment 24**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 30 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**30a.** *Notes that poverty continues to be measured on accumulated household income, which assumes that all members of the household earn the same and distribute*

*resources equally; calls for individualised rights and calculations based on individual incomes in order to reveal the true extent of women's poverty;*

**Amendment 25**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 32 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*32a. Recalls the important role of public services in achieving gender equality; notes that expenditure in these fields is to be seen as investment that will bring economic returns and should be given special consideration within the framework of the EU's economic governance and budgetary surveillance rules;*

**Amendment 26**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 32 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*32b. Reiterates its call for the Council to ensure the swift adoption of the directive on gender balance among non-executive directors of listed companies, as an important first step towards equal representation in both public and private sectors;*

## INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	26.6.2017
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