



2022/2105(DEC)

27.1.2023

OPINION

of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality

for the Committee on Budgetary Control

on 2021 discharge: General budget of the EU – European Institute of Gender
Equality
(2022/2105(DEC))

Rapporteur for opinion: Monika Vana

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SUGGESTIONS

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

- A. whereas gender equality is a core value of the Union enshrined in Article 2 TEU; whereas Article 8 TFEU states that in all its activities the Union shall aim to eliminate inequalities, establishing the principle of gender mainstreaming;
- B. whereas gender equality in the Union has been particularly impacted by the consequences of the COVID pandemic, the war in Ukraine, and the backlashes against gender equality and women's rights, especially sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in several Member States; whereas women are at risk of being disproportionately affected by rising energy prices and costs of living in general; whereas this has the potential to further deepen inequalities and hamper gender equality; whereas further research is needed of gendered impact of energy poverty in the European Union; whereas the Gender Equality Index in 2022 is 68.6 across the EU, which has increased by only 0.6 since 2021 demonstrating that the EU's pace towards gender equality is slow;
- C. whereas, according to its statement of revenue and expenditure, the final budget of the European Institute for Gender Equality ("EIGE") for the financial year 2021 was EUR 8 692 878, representing an increase of 12,17 % compared to 2020; whereas the entire budget of the Institute derives from the Union budget;
 1. Recalls that EIGE was established in order to contribute to and strengthen the promotion of gender equality in the Union; stresses the key role that EIGE plays in the promotion of gender equality in the EU such as providing research and data; a task in which it has proven to be vital and effective, and therefore underlines that EIGE needs to be provided with sufficient and stable financial and human resources to fulfil its tasks; recalls that the institute's task is to collect, analyse and disseminate information as regards gender equality and to develop, analyse, evaluate and disseminate methodological tools in order to support the integration of gender equality into all Union policies and the resulting national policies; encourages collaboration between the EIGE and other European Union agencies;
 2. Welcomes the ongoing cooperation between the EIGE and the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality; stresses the valuable contribution that the EIGE can make to all Parliament committees, in order to better integrate the gender perspective in all EU policies; acknowledges the specialisation and insight of EIGE, especially in the provision of data and assessment of policies of Member States;
 3. Recalls that, especially in the context of the lasting impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on gender equality as well as the currently rising energy and cost of living prices, increased budget and human resources are needed for the EIGE to adequately carry out its functions and monitor, analyse and report on the situation and its impact on women's rights and gender equality;

4. Recommends the allocation of more staff to EIGE and sufficient funding taking into account the institute's own assessment of its needs in order to cope with a sharp rise of requests for technical assistance on gender mainstreaming such as for example in order to respond urgently to the worsening impact of different and successive social, economic and climate crisis on women and gender equality and the backlashes against gender equality and women's rights, in several Member States and worldwide;
5. Notes EIGE's continuous high level of budget execution, despite the persistent understaffing of the agency, with commitment appropriations of up to 98,92 % in 2021 (compared to 97,75 % in 2020), and the decreased payment appropriations rate of 72,16 % (74,82 % in 2020);
6. Acknowledges an increase in the EIGE's carry-over operating expenditure to 54,79 % in 2022 (49,49 % in 2021);
7. Notes that the European Court of Auditors confirmed that EIGE's annual accounts present fairly, in all material respects, its financial position as at 31 December 2021 and the results of its operations, its cash flows and the changes in net assets for the year then ended;
8. Is of the opinion, on the basis of the data currently available, that discharge can be granted to the Director of the EIGE in respect of the implementation of its budget for the financial year 2021.

INFORMATION ON ADOPTION IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	25.1.2023
Result of final vote	+: 24 -: 7 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Isabella Adinolfi, Christine Anderson, Simona Baldassarre, Robert Biedroń, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión, Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Frances Fitzgerald, Lívia Járóka, Arba Kokalari, Alice Kuhnke, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Karen Melchior, Johan Nissinen, Carina Ohlsson, Sirpa Pietikäinen, Samira Rafaela, Evelyn Regner, Diana Riba i Giner, Eugenia Rodríguez Palop, María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos, Christine Schneider, Michal Šimečka, Sylwia Spurek, Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi
Substitutes present for the final vote	Sylvie Brunet, Virginie Joron, Marina Kaljurand, Predrag Fred Matić
Substitutes under Rule 209(7) present for the final vote	Paola Ghidoni

FINAL VOTE BY ROLL CALL IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

24	+
PPE	Isabella Adinolfi, Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Frances Fitzgerald, Arba Kokalari, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Sirpa Pietikäinen, Christine Schneider, Elissavet Vozemberg-Vrionidi
Renew	Sylvie Brunet, Karen Melchior, Samira Rafaela, María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos, Michal Šimečka
S&D	Robert Biedroń, Vilija Blinkevičiūtė, Marina Kaljurand, Predrag Fred Matić, Carina Ohlsson, Evelyn Regner
The Left	Eugenia Rodríguez Palop
Verts/ALE	Gwendoline Delbos-Corfield, Alice Kuhnke, Diana Riba i Giner, Sylwia Spurek

7	-
ECR	Johan Nissinen, Margarita de la Pisa Carrión
ID	Christine Anderson, Simona Baldassarre, Paola Ghidoni, Virginie Joron
NI	Livia Járóka

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Key to symbols:

+ : in favour

- : against

0 : abstention