

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



The work of the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality had a very good start this autumn. Together with the LIBE Committee we held an orientation vote on the amendments to the proposal for a directive on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings, and protecting victims. At this stage several trilogues are organised with the Commission and the Council. We still have another file on our common agenda: the European Protection Order on which we will jointly have an orientation vote on 29 September. The same day the FEMM committee will vote on the following items: a draft opinion highlighting the impact of advertising on consumer behaviour and a draft report on the situation of precarious women workers. The Committee will organise a public hearing on How poverty affects women in the EU on 28 September. For the October II plenary session in Strasbourg, the FEMM Committee has two reports on the agenda to be voted: Improvements in the safety and health at work of pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding (Maternity leave) and the second will be the aforementioned report on precarious women workers. Preceding the plenary vote on the maternity leave, a [joint FEMM/EMPL workshop](#) will be held on this topic on 5 October. At the moment of writing, the Commission has just presented its [strategy for gender equality](#) for the period of 2010-2015 and we look forward to continuing our collaboration for the improvement of gender equality in all policy areas, with the institutions, the different committees and the civil society.

Eva-Britt Svensson

28-29 SEPTEMBER – MEETING AGENDA IN BRIEF

- ⌚ How poverty affects women in the EU - Public Hearing
- ⌚ The contribution of EU policies promoting equality between men and women in combating youth crime - consideration of draft report
- ⌚ Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography (repeal of Framework Decision 2004/68/JHA) - consideration of draft opinion

THE COMMITTEE WILL VOTE ON

- ⌚ European Protection Order - adoption of amendments (orientation vote)

- ⌚ The impact of advertising on consumer behaviour - adoption of draft opinion - adoption of draft opinion
- ⌚ Proposal for a modification of the Act concerning the election of the Members of the European Parliament by direct universal suffrage of 20 September 1976 - adoption of amendments
- ⌚ Precarious women workers - adoption of draft report

Date: Tuesday, 28 September, 15.00-18.30

Venue: ASP 1G2 meeting room

Wednesday, 29 September, 9.00-12.30

Venue: PHS Hemicycle

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

HOW POVERTY AFFECTS WOMEN IN THE EU

Public hearing

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT / PARLAMENTO EUROPEO / EVROPSKY PARLAMENT / EUROPA-PARLAMENTET / EUROPAISCHES PARLAMENT / EUROOPA PARLAMENT / ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΟΒΟΥΛΙΟ / EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT / PARLAMENT EUROPEEN / PARLAMENT PAR YHOONIA / PARLAMENTO EUROPEO / EUROPS PARLAMENTAS / EUROPOIS PARLAMENTAS / EUROPA PARLAMENT / IL-PARLAMENT EWROPEW / EUROPEIS PARLAMENT / PARLAMENT EUROPEJSKI / PARLAMENTO EUROPEU / PARLAMENTUL EUROPEAN / EUROPSKY PARLAMENT / EVROPSKI PARLAMENT / EUROOPAN PARLAMENTTI / EUROOPAPARLAMENTET

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY

"HOW POVERTY AFFECTS WOMEN IN THE EUROPEAN UNION"

Chairwoman:
Eva-Britt Svensson

Rapporteur:
Rovana Plumb

Tuesday, 28 September 2010
from 15.00 to 18.30
Room ASP 1 G2, Brussels

IPOL/DW/2010

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The [hearing](#) will serve as a basis for the future initiative report on the "Face of female poverty in the EU". The aim of the hearing is to highlight the situation of women living in poverty and social exclusion. Mem-

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.

bers and experts will have the opportunity to express their views on the issue in two discussion panels. The first panel is about the dimensions of poverty affecting women, while the second will focus on the appropriate measures and best practices to meet the overall objective of reducing poverty.

Rapporteur: **Rovana Plumb** (S-D)

EUROPEAN PROTECTION ORDER

Adoption of amendments (orientation vote)

In the framework of the procedure with joint committees, FEMM and LIBE committees will hold a joint meeting on 29 September dedicated to the file on the [European Protection Order](#). Following a consideration of the [141 amendments](#) at the previous joint meeting, Members will now proceed to an orientation vote on the amendments, including compromise amendments put forward by the Co-Rapporteurs.

Co-Rapporteurs: **Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio** (EPP), **Carmen Romero López** (S-D)

THE IMPACT OF ADVERTISING ON CONSUMER BEHAVIOUR

Adoption of draft opinion



The Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection drafted an [own-initiative report](#) on the impact of advertising on consumer behaviour. The FEMM committee considered its draft [opinion](#), which emphasizes that advertising often communicates discriminatory messages based on all forms of gender stereotyping and this practice should be combated. Until the deadline for amendments, [40 amendments](#) have been tabled, several of which have been incorporated into compromise amendments seeking broader support.

Draftsperson: **Antigoni Papadopoulou** (S-D)

PROPOSAL FOR A MODIFICATION OF THE ACT CONCERNING THE ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BY DIRECT UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE OF 20 SEPTEMBER 1976

Adoption of amendments



The FEMM amendments to the [draft report](#) of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO) promote the idea of a proportionate representation of gender in the elections at national and European level and urges Members states and political parties to take steps in this regard. The

amendments also propose that a minimum of 40% representation of either gender would be an eligibility criterion of any EU-wide list for a future "additional constituency" from the whole territory of the Union.

PRECARIOUS WOMEN WORKERS

Adoption of draft report

The consideration of the [draft report](#) took place on 23 June and a deadline for amendments was set. Members tabled 49 [amendments](#) to the text and by the initiative of the Rapporteur, 7 [compromise amendments](#) have been tabled, with the purpose to integrate different ideas into the final text.

Rapporteur: **Britta Thomsen** (S-D)

THE CONTRIBUTION OF EU POLICIES PROMOTING EQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN IN COMBATING YOUTH CRIME

Consideration of draft report



An exchange of views with experts was held at the committee meeting on 23 June, which served as an input to the draft report to be presented to the committee

at the current meeting. The Rapporteur emphasizes the importance of parental responsibility and the need to invest into and develop human and social capital in order to combat youth crime in a more efficient way.

Rapporteur: **Anna Záborská** (EPP)

SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY (REPEAL OF FRAMEWORK DECISION 2004/68/JHA)

Consideration of draft opinion

Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children are particularly serious forms of crime, which can produce long-term physical, psychological and social harm. The FEMM committee has drafted an opinion to the legislative report of the LIBE committee on this issue. The [draft opinion](#) attempts to incorporate the correct definitions of a child and an adolescent, and considers the gender perspective of the matter as well. The text also considers the technical aspects, such as content deletion and blocking.

Rapporteur: **Marina Yannakoudakis** (ECR)

Details of the next meeting

Wednesday, 27 October 2010, 15.00 - 18.30

Thursday, 28 October 2010, 9.00 - 12.30

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