

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



In the context of the [Belgian EU Presidency](#), Members of our Committee had the opportunity to visit the [Belgian Senate](#) earlier this month where we met a number of Members of the Belgian Senate and Chamber of Deputies. It was a fruitful gathering which gave us the opportunity to discuss the priorities and strategies for gender equality policies at national and EU level. We are thankful for the good cooperation with the Presidency and especially appreciate that they co-organize a [two-day conference](#) on violence against women this week with the Commission. This conference has a brilliant timing as it falls on the anniversary of the [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women \(CEDAW\)](#), adopted in 1979 by the UN and often described as an international bill of women's rights. Concerning the next committee meeting, we will start with a joint meeting with the LIBE Committee with votes on European Protection Order and Trafficking in human beings. We will continue in FEMM with the discussion of our items, followed by more voting sessions. Further down you will find more details about these items. Here I would like to take the opportunity to extend again my gratitude to my colleagues for their work. I believe that FEMM is really making significant political progress for gender equality in the EU. In this context my thoughts go also to the civil society and the women's organizations all around Europe who contribute to an outstanding job for gender equality. Thank you all! - *Eva-Britt Svensson*

29-30 NOVEMBER – MEETING AGENDA IN BRIEF

- ⌚ EU strategy on Roma inclusion - presentation
- ⌚ The face of female poverty in the European Union - consideration of draft report
- ⌚ Priorities and outline of a new EU policy framework to fight violence against women - consideration of draft report
- ⌚ Discharge 2009 - consideration of draft opinion
- ⌚ Gender mainstreaming in the European Parliament election observation activities - presentation
- ⌚ Towards adequate, sustainable and safe European pension systems - consideration of amendments
- ⌚ Delegation to Iceland on 30 September - 1 October 2010 - exchange of views (see [October Newsletter](#))

THE COMMITTEE WILL VOTE ON

- ⌚ [Joint adoption of draft reports with LIBE](#): European Protection Order / Trafficking in human beings
- ⌚ EU strategy on Roma inclusion - adoption of amendments
- ⌚ Implementation of enhanced cooperation procedure regarding law applicable to divorce and legal separation - adoption of draft opinion
- ⌚ Proposal for a modification of the Act concerning the election of the Members of the EP - adoption of amendments (tbc)
- ⌚ The contribution of EU policies promoting equality between men and women in combating youth crime - adoption of draft report
- ⌚ Sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography - adoption of draft opinion
- ⌚ Reducing health inequalities in the EU - adoption of draft opinion

Date: Monday, 29 November, 15.00-18.30

Tuesday, 30 November, 9.00-12.30

Venue: PHS 1A002 meeting room

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

JOINT MEETING OF FEMM AND LIBE COMMITTEES: EUROPEAN PROTECTION ORDER AND TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Adoption of draft reports

FEMM and LIBE committees will hold a joint meeting on 29 November where they will vote on the reports on [European Protection Order](#) and [Trafficking in human beings](#). Since the orientation votes in September, trilogues have been held with Council in order to find a first reading agreement.

Co-Rapporteurs (EPO): *Teresa Jiménez-Becerril*

Barrio (EPP), Carmen Romero López (S-D)

Co-Rapporteurs (Trafficking): *Edit Bauer (EPP)*

Anna Hedh (S-D)

THE FACE OF FEMALE POVERTY IN THE EU

Consideration of draft report



The [draft report](#) is a succession of the [public hearing](#) held on 28 September on how poverty affects women in the EU. The Rapporteur examines the issue from the angles of feminization of poverty; labour policies and social protection; reconciliation of work and family life; poverty among elderly women; and the link between poverty and gender violence. The draft report em-

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.

phases the importance of social dialogue and the role of civil society in tackling the problem and calls for proper funding targeted to combat poverty.

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

PRIORITIES AND OUTLINE OF A NEW EU POLICY FRAMEWORK TO FIGHT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Consideration of draft report

Protecting women from violence is a complex problem, including the protection of the integrity of individual victims of crime but also the protection of important common social interests, such as freedom and democracy. This [strategic report](#) collects the necessary measures to guarantee a decent, safe life for women in the European Union.

Rapporteur: **Eva-Britt Svensson** (GUE/NGL)

DISCHARGE 2009

Consideration of draft opinion



Following the presentation of the Court of Auditors (CoA) [Annual report for 2009](#), the FEMM committee decided to prepare a [draft opinion](#) which will be included in the 2009 discharge report of the Committee on Budgetary Control.

The draft opinion mentions the continued lack of gender aspect in the EU budgetary process, and notes the findings of the [special report](#) of the CoA on vocational training actions for women co-financed by the European Social Fund.

Draftsperson: **Iratxe García Pérez** (S-D)

GENDER MAINSTREAMING IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTION OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES

Presentation of a report by Fiona Hall, Member of the Election Coordination Group

The report gives an overview on the participation of women in electoral processes observed by the EP. Furthermore it contains statistics on gender representation in the composition of EU election observation missions and European Parliament's delegations. The report concludes with some recommendations to the [Election Coordination Group](#) to further improve the quality of data available in this context.

TOWARDS ADEQUATE, SUSTAINABLE AND SAFE EUROPEAN PENSION SYSTEMS



Consideration of amendments

The FEMM committee will now consider the 89 [amendments](#) tabled to this [draft opinion](#) following the exchange of views in October.

Draftsperson: **Barbara Matera** (EPP)

EU STRATEGY ON ROMA INCLUSION

Presentation of draft report & adoption of amendments

The Roma issue is high on the EU agenda and it deserves a constant attention at national and European

level. FEMM committee has invited Ms Járóka, the Rapporteur of the issue in the LIBE committee to present her own-initiative report to the FEMM Members.

Rapporteur in LIBE: **Lívía Járóka** (EPP)

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

Adoption of draft report

Following an exchange of views with experts on 23 June and the consideration of the [draft report](#) on 29 September, the committee will vote on the draft report, the 147 [amendments](#) and further compromise amendments.

Rapporteur: **Anna Záborská** (EPP)

IMPLEMENTATION OF ENHANCED COOPERATION PROCEDURE REGARDING LAW APPLICABLE TO DIVORCE AND LEGAL SEPARATION



Adoption of draft opinion

The committee will vote on the 5 amendments of the legislative [draft opinion](#) as well as the [additional 11 amendments](#) tabled.

Draftsperson: **Angelika Niebler** (EPP)

SEXUAL ABUSE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Adoption of draft opinion

The FEMM committee has discussed its [draft opinion](#) to the legislative report of the LIBE committee on the issue. Members will now proceed to vote on the draft opinion, the 88 [amendments](#) tabled to it, as well as compromise amendments.

Draftsperson: **Marina Yannakoudakis** (ECR)

REDUCING HEALTH INEQUALITIES IN THE EU

Adoption of draft opinion

The discussion on this [file](#) took place at the previous committee meeting. 99 [amendments](#) have been tabled until the deadline and now the Members will proceed to the vote.

Draftsperson: **Sylvie Guillaume** (S-D)

MODIFICATION OF THE ACT CONCERNING THE ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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. 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.

Details of the next meeting

Monday, 13 December 2010, 19.00 - 20.30

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