

## THE SITUATION OF SINGLE MOTHERS

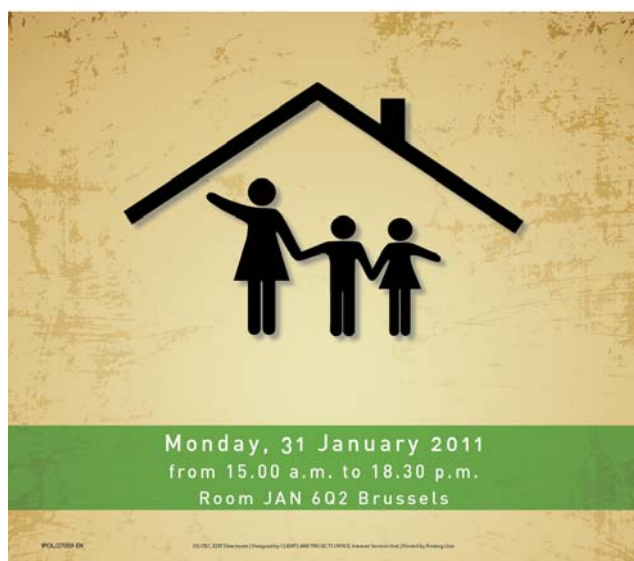
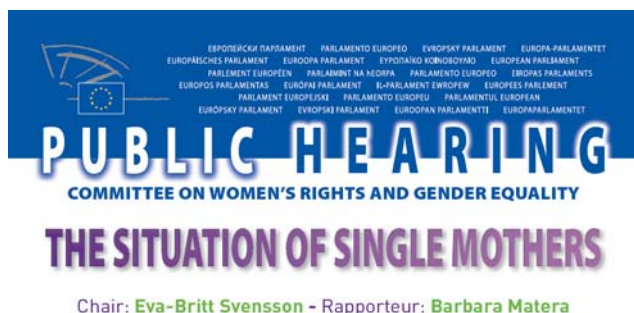
### Public hearing

The number of single-parent households has been on the rise across the European Union. The higher proportion of women amongst single parents means that the related problems and challenges also concern women disproportionately. The poverty risk of these families is usually higher than that of the two-parent households, as lone parents often have to choose between employment and childcare at home due to the lack of available and/or affordable childcare services.

The aim of the public hearing is to uncover the specific problems facing single mothers in the European Union and to provide practical solutions and policies to help these mothers.

Two thematic discussion panels with the participation of external experts, representatives of the European Commission and Members will provide the means to have a successful hearing.

Rapporteur: **Barbara Matera** (EPP)



### Draft programme of the public hearing in brief \*

**Date:** Monday, 31 January, 15.00 - 18.30

**Venue:** JAN 6Q2 meeting room, Brussels

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15.00 - Welcome by Ms Eva-Britt Svensson, Chair of FEMM Committee

15.05 - Opening remarks by Ms Barbara Matera, Rapporteur

15.15 - Discussion panel: the new family pattern: the challenges facing single mother households

Presentation from external experts

Response by Members and the European Commission

Question time

16.45 - Discussion panel: practical solutions and policies to help single mothers

Presentation from external experts

Response by Members and the European Commission

Question time

18.15 - Closing remarks by Ms Barbara Matera, Rapporteur

18.30 - Closure of the Hearing by Ms Eva-Britt Svensson, Chair of FEMM Committee

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\* Detailed draft programme, please click [here](#).

Registration information, please click [here](#).

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

### Details of the next meeting

Thursday, 3 March, 9.00 - 12.30

(Celebration 2011 International Women's Day)

Please note that the contact e-mail of the FEMM secretariat has been changed to [femm-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:femm-secretariat@europarl.europa.eu)

### 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.

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](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2009_2014/organes/femm/femm_7leg_meetinglist.htm)