

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR



There is clear evidence that women suffer severe forms of abuse during, and often after, armed conflicts. An example is sexual violence which occurs frequently in all phases of armed conflicts and may be carried out by armed forces, military groups, or civilians. Systematic mass rape has also been used as an instrument of war. During this spring the FEMM committee has put extra focus on the situation of women in war situations, especially in an EU-UN context through exchange of views both with the head of UN Women and the UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict. A clear message that I bear with me from both of these gatherings is that the UN resolutions 1325 and 1820, which are two key instruments on gender issues in war and peace, should be respected and implemented at all levels. The coming FEMM committee meeting will continue to emphasize this issue through a public hearing on "Women's situation in war". We are also looking forward to the opportunity to exchange views on the item violence against women - at international level with Ms Rashida Manjoo, UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women and with Mr Mendes Bota on the Council of Europe's Convention for the Prevention and Fight on Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence, CAHVIO.

Eva-Britt Svensson

14 - 15 JUNE – MEETING AGENDA IN BRIEF

- 🕒 Women's situation in war - public hearing
- 🕒 Tackling gender-based violence - international perspectives - exchange of views
- 🕒 The Agenda for New Skills and Jobs - consideration of draft opinion
- 🕒 The role of property rights, property ownership and wealth creation in eradicating poverty and fostering sustainable development in developing countries - consideration of draft opinion
- 🕒 The European Semester for economic policy coordination - consideration of draft opinion
- 🕒 Green Paper: From challenges to opportunities: towards a common strategic framework for EU research and innovation funding - consideration of draft opinion

JOINT LIBE-FEMM MEETING

- 🕒 European Protection Order - consideration and adoption of mandate in view of possible agreement with Council

Date: Tuesday, 14 June, 15.00 - 18.30

Wednesday, 15 June, 9.00 - 12.30

Venue: ASP - 3E2 meeting room, Brussels

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

WOMEN'S SITUATION IN WAR

Public hearing

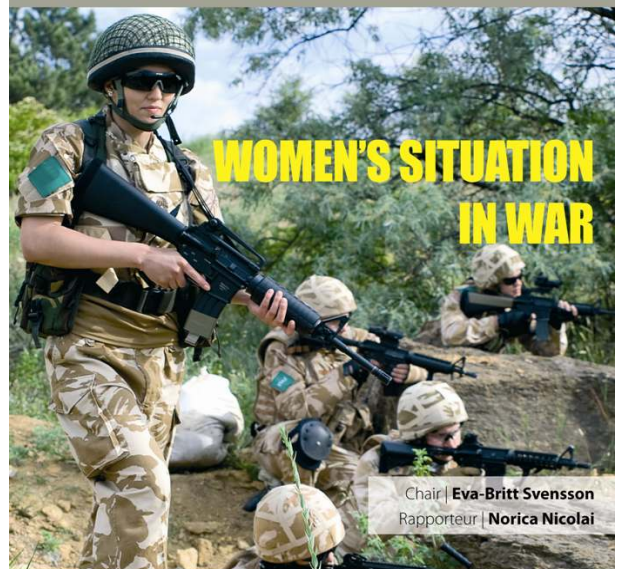
PUBLIC HEARING

COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS AND GENDER EQUALITY

14.06.2011

ALTIERO SPINELLI BUILDING - Brussels

15.00-18.30 ROOM: ASP 3E2



ΕΠΙΤΡΟΠΗ ΠΑΡΑΡΤΗΜΑΤΟΣ ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤΟ ΕΥΡΩΠΕΩΝ ΕΥΡΩΠΕΥΣΚΟ ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤΟ ΕΥΡΩΠΑ-ΠΑΡΛΑΜΕΝΤΕΤ
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The **public hearing** on "Women's situation in war" will serve as an input to the prospective report on the same subject. The invited experts and representatives of the **EEAS** will present their views and contributions to the committee in two discussion panels. The first panel focuses the role of women in military structures in peace and security initiative, and in the second panel the subject of the discussion will be the impact of armed conflicts on women.

Rapporteur: Norica Nicolai (ALDE)

For registration information, please click [here](#).

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.

EUROPEAN PROTECTION ORDER

Consideration and adoption of mandate

In view of a possible agreement with the Council on the draft directive on the [European Protection Order](#), in a joint meeting with the [Committee](#) on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, Members will appoint a negotiating team and adopt the negotiation mandate.

Co-rapporteurs:

Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio (EPP)

Carmen Romero López (S&D)

TACKLING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE - INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES

Exchange of views

The discussion on tackling violence against women in the international context will take place with the participation of José Mendes Bota, Chairperson of the [Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men](#), [Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe](#) and Rashida Manjoo, [UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women](#).

THE AGENDA FOR NEW SKILLS AND JOBS

Consideration of draft opinion



The [draft opinion](#) highlights the necessity to implement anti-discrimination legislation and family friendly provisions in order to increase women's labour force participation. The draftsman also calls for vocational training and retraining of women returning to the labour market. It also stresses that it is important to involve women in life-long learning and to promote technical and engineering studies among female students with a view to flexible adaptation of education and training to the needs of the labour market.

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Draftsperson: **Joanna Katarzyna Skrzydlewska** (EPP)

THE ROLE OF PROPERTY RIGHTS, PROPERTY OWNERSHIP AND WEALTH CREATION IN ERADICATING POVERTY AND FOSTERING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Consideration of draft opinion

Women in developing countries face a serious gender gap in terms of property rights and ownership, states the [draft opinion](#). Women's rights to property in developing countries are being violated through large-scale land acquisitions for commercial or strategic purposes. The draftsman calls for financial resources to close this gap in property rights as well as financial support mechanisms which should accompany the policies to increase women's access to property.

Draftsperson: **Silvia Costa** (S&D)

THE EUROPEAN SEMESTER FOR ECONOMIC POLICY COORDINATION

Consideration of draft opinion

The FEMM committee decided to draft an opinion to the [own-initiative report](#) of the [Committee](#) on Economic and Monetary Affairs, which aims to define the role and main guidelines for the Parliament's involvement in the [European Semester](#), a new architecture for the renewed economic governance in the EU. The [draft opinion](#) aims to ensure that the gender aspect will be taken into due account in the future annual economic decision making process, by involving the committee in the preparation as well as the evaluation phases.

Draftsperson: **Marije Cornelissen** (Greens/EFA)

GREEN PAPER: FROM CHALLENGES TO OPPORTUNITIES: TOWARDS A COMMON STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR EU RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FUNDING

Consideration of draft opinion



The [draft opinion](#) reminds of the disappointingly low rate of women participating in research, as stated in the mid-term evaluation of [The Seventh Framework Programme](#)

, despite the fact that 60 % of students graduating from universities are women. Consequently the draftsman calls for the establishment of a Gender Action Plan within the common strategic framework for EU research and innovation funding. The draft opinion also calls for measures improving the situation of female researchers and entrepreneurs, in particularly regarding the work-life balance.

Draftsperson: **Britta Thomsen** (S&D)

DELEGATION TO THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR GENDER EQUALITY, VILNIUS

Exchange of views



A delegation of committee Members [visited](#) the European Institute for Gender Equality in Vilnius, Lithuania on 19-20 May. During the visit they discussed the cooperation between the Institute and the committee, as well as issues such as the reconciliation of professional and private life, violence against women and the gender aspects of the Europe 2020 strategy.

Details of the next meeting

Wednesday, 13 July, 15.00 - 18.30

Thursday, 14 July, 9.00 - 12.30



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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