


Procedure file

| Basic information | | |
|---|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| INI - Own-initiative procedure | 2000/2020(INI) | Procedure completed |
| Follow-up to the Peking action platform | | |
| Subject 4.10.04 Gender equality | | |

| Key players | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|------------|
| European Parliament | Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
| | FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities | | 26/01/2000 |
| | | PPE-DE SMET Miet | 26/01/2000 |
| | | PSE GRÖNER Lissy | |
| Council of the European Union | Council configuration | Meeting | Date |
| | Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs | 2373 | 08/10/2001 |

| Key events | | | |
|------------|--|---|---------|
| 02/02/2000 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 18/04/2000 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 18/04/2000 | Committee report tabled for plenary | A5-0125/2000 | |
| 17/05/2000 | Debate in Parliament |  | |
| 18/05/2000 | Decision by Parliament | T5-0235/2000 | Summary |
| 18/05/2000 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 23/02/2001 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |
| 08/10/2001 | Debate in Council | 2373 | |

| Technical information | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Procedure reference | 2000/2020(INI) |
| Procedure type | INI - Own-initiative procedure |
| Procedure subtype | Initiative |
| Legal basis | Rules of Procedure EP 54 |
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| Stage reached in procedure | Procedure completed |
| Committee dossier | FEMM/5/12423 |

Documentation gateway

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|---|---|------------|----|---------|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading | A5-0125/2000 OJ C 059 23.02.2001, p. 0004 | 18/04/2000 | EP | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, single reading | T5-0235/2000 OJ C 059 23.02.2001, p. 0133-0258 | 18/05/2000 | EP | Summary |

Follow-up to the Peking action platform

The committee adopted the report by the co-rapporteurs, Miet SMET (EPP, B) and Lissy GRÖNER (PES, D), on the follow-up to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action - "Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the 21st Century". The report felt that it was crucial that the participants at the forthcoming UN Conference in New York in June should reach agreement on a Fifth UN World Conference on Women to be held in five years' time in order to assess the advancement of women in the areas of equality, development and peace. It also called for women's and girls' rights to be incorporated, as an integral part of universal human rights, into the future EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. Respect for women's rights should be closely monitored in all external relations and cooperation. The committee recommended that the EU and its Member States should take strong action with regard to violence against women, and cooperate with the Council of Europe and NGOs in conducting a multiannual campaign on this issue. It also called for legislative initiatives to fight sex tourism involving children and child pornography on the Internet. The EU Member States should take measures to tackle gender gaps in employment, for example by evaluating the impact of part-time and atypical forms of working on social security contributions, retirement and the increase in poverty among women. The report advocated the use of quotas as a transitional measure to achieve a balanced representation of women and men in political life and at all levels of decision-making. It also expressed strong support for a more positive and realistic portrayal and image of women in the media. Finally, the report listed other top priorities for action at EU level, such as introducing into the Treaty a single coherent legal basis for equality for women and men in all policy areas, a fifth Community equal opportunities action programme, the setting up of a Commission Directorate on Gender Equality, and the application of gender mainstreaming in all EU negotiations, treaties and programmes concerning Central and Eastern Europe. It called for sufficient financial resources to be made available in order to implement all such measures.?

Follow-up to the Peking action platform

The European Parliament adopted the resolution drafted by Miet SMET (EPP, Belgium) and Lissy GRONER (PES, Germany) on the follow up to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. The Parliament deplored the lack of agreed indicators, gender-segregated data, benchmarks and a clear timetable in the Platform for Action, this being a major obstacle to proper evaluation of progress made over the last five years. It urged the participants at Beijing +5 to establish indicators and benchmarks. In the future EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, women's and girl's rights should not be considered as special rights, but as an integral part of universal human rights. The Council, Commission and the Member States were asked to act decisively to tackle violence against women. The UN is urged to emphasise gender mainstreaming in the resolution of armed conflicts, peace-building, and reconciliation. Parliament recommended that the EU in cooperation with the Council of Europe and NGO's, conduct a multiannual campaign on violence and discrimination against women. Member States should use quotas as a transitional measure to achieve the balanced representation of women and men in political life. A list of priority measures is also called for at EU level, including a proposal for a fifth Community action programme on equal opportunities for women and men that is adequately funded and includes targets, benchmarks and assessment mechanisms. Member States and the Commission need to provide sufficient financial resources to ensure that the measures required and gender mainstreaming are implemented in order to achieve the goals of the Platform for Action.?