Procedure file

Basic information

INI - Own-initiative procedure	2005/2164(INI)	Procedure completed
The situation of Roma women in the European Union Subject 4.10.09 Women condition and rights 6.10.08 Fundamental freedoms, human rights, democracy in general		

Key players

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality		15/09/2005
		PPE-DE JÁRÓKA Lívia	
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion		

Key events

29/09/2005	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/04/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
27/04/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0148/2006	
01/06/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
01/06/2006	Debate in Parliament		
01/06/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0244/2006	Summary
01/06/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2005/2164(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 54
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	FEMM/6/30181

Documentation gateway					
Committee draft report		PE370.154	22/02/2006	EP	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE371.895	28/03/2006	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0148/2006	27/04/2006	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0244/2006	01/06/2006	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2006)2902	22/06/2006	EC	
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2006)3286	01/08/2006	EC	

The situation of Roma women in the European Union

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by by Lívia JÁRÓKA (EPP-ED, HU) on the situation of Roma women in the EU. MEPs stressed that Roma women are among the most threatened groups and individuals in the Europe - particularly in the ten new Member States and accession and candidate countries - and called for measures to combat the extreme levels of multiple discrimination faced by these women on the grounds of both ethnicity and gender.

The report urged public authorities throughout the EU to "promptly investigate allegations of extreme human rights abuses against Romani women, to swiftly punish perpetrators, and to provide adequate compensation to victims". It called on the Member States to give the highest priority to measures to provide better protection for women's reproductive and sexual health, to prevent and outlaw coercive sterilisation, and provide redress for such abuse, and to promote family planning, alternative arrangements to early marriages, and sex education. It also called for proactive measures to eliminate racially-segregated maternity wards, to help victims of domestic violence and to exercise particular vigilance regarding the trafficking of Roma women.

Among other areas of concern, the report urged Member States to ensure that all Roma women have access to health care, and not only, as often occurs, in the case of an extreme emergency or childbirth. It also insisted on the need to end the "separate, substandard education of Romani children". In addition, the committee highlighted the need for measures to tackle the very high unemployment rate among Roma women which, in many places, was many times higher than that of the rest of the adult female population.

In other recommendations, MEPs urged the Member States to improve Roma housing by recognising in national law a right to adequate housing. They also said that the Commission should launch legal proceedings against and impose fines on any Member States that have not yet transposed or fully implemented the EU's anti-discrimination directives with regard to Roma women. The report added that the situation of Roma women in candidate countries should be a key criterion for evaluating "states of readiness" for accession to the EU. Lastly, the committee welcomed the proposal to set up an EU Institute for Gender Equality and said that it should have a unit dealing with Roma women in the EU.

The situation of Roma women in the European Union

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report by Lívia JÁRÓKA (EPP-ED, HU) on the situation of Roma women in the EU. (Please see the document of 25/04/2006.)