Basic information

2002/2180(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic) Equal opportunities for women and men in the European Union. 6th annual report 2001 **Subject** 4.10.04 Gender equality	Procedure completed

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities	KRATSA-TSAGAROPOULOU Rodi (PPE-DE)	18/06/2002

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
LIBE Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	02/10/2002
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
28/05/2002	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2002)0258	Summary
02/09/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
26/11/2002	Vote in committee		Summary

26/11/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0403/2002	
19/12/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0633/2002	Summary
19/12/2002	Debate in Parliament		
19/12/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
05/02/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2002/2180(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	FEMM/5/16499

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0403/2002	26/11/2002	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0633/2002 OJ C 031 05.02.2004, p. 0192-0265 E	19/12/2002	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2002)0258	28/05/2002	Summary

Equal opportunities for women and men in the European Union. 6th annual report 2001

2002/2180(COS) - 19/12/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Rodi KRATSA-TSAGAROPOULOU on the Commission's report. (Please refer to the document dated 26/11/02.) Parliament also pointed out that women's NGOs with significant experience at national and regional level are encountering difficulties in taking part in European programmes (specifications, joint funding, etc). The Commission needed to revise its policy in this regard. Parliament went on to state that the Commission's new directive based on Article 13 should: - commit Member States to taking measures to ensure follow-up to the Beijing Action Platform; - provide for the adaptation of existing provisions to meet current needs, particularly in regard to balanced participation in decision-making, equality in the education systems, reconciliation of work and family life, combating violence, trafficking in human beings and the sexual exploitation of women; - enable positive action to be taken.

Equal opportunities for women and men in the European Union. 6th annual report 2001

2002/2180(COS) - 28/05/2002 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the sixth Annual Report on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men in the European Union. CONTENT : this Annual Report, the sixth on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men in the European Union, presents an overview of the main developments and achievements at European and national level in 2001 and outlines perspectives for the year 2002. As regards the the Community Framework Strategy to Gender equality (2001-2005), the report states that 2001 was the first year of the implementation of the Framework Strategy on Gender Equality. There was some noticeable progress in the year 2001 both with regard to substance and methodology for the integration of gender issues in policies and also with regard to the gender balance in the Commissions committees and expert groups. This progress confirms the efficiency of the structured approach chosen in the Framework Strategy which is based on forward planing, setting specific objectives and monitoring the activities and results at the end of each year. In 2001 interesting new activities were selected for an integration of a gender equality perspective, for instance: - World trade and globalisation (Directorate General for Trade), - The integrated product policy, in particular waste management (Directorate General Environment), - Asylum and refugee policy (Directorate General Justice and Home Affairs) and - An interpretative communication on the incorporation of social aspects in public procurement, including equality of treatment and opportunity between men and women, was adopted (DG Internal Market in co-operation with DG Employment). As regards the action plan, a new Action Programme for which a priority theme is selected each year accompanies the Framework Strategy. The priority theme in 2001 was the gender pay gap. Equal pay for women and men in the European Union is now part of the process launched at the Lisbon Summit in 2000 to make the European Union the most knowledge-based economy in the world by 2010 with more and better jobs and social cohesion. Each year, the Commission assesses progress towards the Lisbon objectives on the base of structural indicators, which now includes an indicator on gender pay differentials. In practice, the majority of the 27 projects selected in 2001 under the Action Programme, deal with equal pay issues. The total funding for them is approximately 8 million Euro. The results are expected for 2003. As far as equality in the enlargement process is concerned, the report highlights that a basic condition of membership of the European Union is acceptance and transposition of the "acquis communitaire". In the field of equal opportunities, candidate countries are required to have transposed the nine Directives at the time of entry. The work of transposition is on going with some of the candidate countries achieving good success in 2001. However, legislation of itself is not enough. Experience has shown that supporting mechanisms are essential for effective equality. In this context, structures such as equality bodies, ombudspersons for equality and independent advice are key. In 2002 the spotlight will be on reconciling work and family life. Several initiatives will be taken at European level, such as improving the visibility of the issue in the main political processes, funding of transnational projects, improving statistics and indicators and producing a report on theimplementation of the Directive on parental leave. The year 2002 will be a year of reinforcing gender equality legislation as well. The Commission will bring forward a proposal for a Directive on sex discrimination. The new Directive will intervene in areas beyond employment and social security, which is the present extent of Community equality law. The issues of combating trafficking in women and violence as well as of improving the gender dimension in the external policies of the European Union and in the Structural Funds will continue to be high on the political agenda in 2002. Moreover, following the on going assessment of women's participation at the decision-making level, and in advance of the elections to the European Parliament in 2004, the Commission envisages concentrating its 2003 activities on the promotion of gender balance in decision making. It should also be noted that on 18 April 2002 the Council and the Parliament reached political agreement on the amendment to Directive 76/207/EC on equal treatment in employment.