Basic information

2015/2655(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on maternity leave **Subject** 4.10.02 Family policy, family law, parental leave	

Key players

European Parliament	**Committee responsible**	**Rapporteur**	**Appointed**
	FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality		
European Commission	**Commission DG**	**Commissioner**	
	Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	THYSSEN Marianne	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
19/05/2015	Debate in Parliament		
20/05/2015	Decision by Parliament	T8-0207/2015	Summary
20/05/2015	Results of vote in Parliament		
20/05/2015	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2015/2655(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Debate or resolution on oral question/interpellation
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142-p5
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	FEMM/8/03246

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B8-0453/2015	18/05/2015	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0207/2015	20/05/2015	Summary

Resolution on maternity leave

2015/2655(RSP) - 20/05/2015 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 419 votes to 97 with 161 abstentions, a resolution on maternity leave.

The resolution recalled the principle of equal treatment of women and men which implies that there must be no discrimination whatsoever, be it direct or indirect, including on account of motherhood, fatherhood. It noted that there are more women than men living in poverty and exclusion, especially older women. It is more common for them to work part-time or on fixed-term or temporary contracts. It also took note of the falling birth rate in the EU. It deplored that a quarter of Member States do not offer paternity leave.

Furthermore, Parliament deplored in particular:

- **the deadlock in the Council regarding the Maternity Leave Directive**;
- the interinstitutional instability resulting from the Council's failure to act, given that Parliament has concluded its first reading, yet the discussions in the Council have been halted, thereby compromising the whole legislative procedure;
- the fact that the proposed revision of the directive may be withdrawn by the Commission as part of the REFIT exercise, and, if this ultimately proves to be the case, asks for a legislative initiative aimed at revising Council Directive 92/85/EEC as an immediate alternative, to be started under the Luxembourg presidency of the Council, in order to improve the health and safety of pregnant workers and workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding.

Members reiterated their willingness to draft a **separate directive** establishing paid paternity leave of at least 10 working days and encouraging measures, legislative and otherwise, which enable men, and fathers in particular, to exercise their right to achieve work-life balance. In the meantime, they await the final assessment of Council Directive 2010/18/EU on parental leave and called for a revision of that directive.