Basic information

2021/2986(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Resolution on MeToo and harassment – the consequences for the EU institutions **Subject** 4.10.09 Women condition and rights 4.15.12 Workers protection and rights, labour law 4.15.15 Health and safety at work, occupational medicine	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality		

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
16/12/2021	Decision by Parliament	T9-0514/2021	Summary
16/12/2021	Results of vote in Parliament		
16/12/2021	Debate in Parliament		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2021/2986(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/9/06360

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B9-0587/2021	10/12/2021	

Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T9-0514/2021	16/12/2021	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2022)177	02/05/2022	

Resolution on MeToo and harassment – the consequences for the EU institutions

2021/2986(RSP) - 16/12/2021 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 516 votes to 86, with 75 abstentions, a resolution on MeToo and harassment - the consequences for the EU institutions.

According to estimates, one in three women have experienced physical or sexual violence during their adult lives. Up to 55 % of women have been sexually harassed in the EU with 32 % of all victims saying the perpetrator was a superior, colleague or customer. The progress in addressing the issue of sexual harassment after three years of the MeToo movement is not sufficient and there is still a lot to be done, within the EU institutions and beyond.

The victims of sexual harassment are often staff in the most vulnerable positions at Parliament, including young professionals, trainees, accredited parliamentary assistants (APAs) and contract agents. The resolution noted that the COVID-19 pandemic and the new working methods of the European Parliament implemented during the pandemic might have made physical harassment less likely yet have also made it difficult for victims of harassment to report their complaints and turn to a counsellor for guidance and support. The resolution highlighted that the MeToo movement has pushed the EU institutions to plan and start to adapt their internal rules and procedures to better identify, counter and sanction harassment.

While strongly condemning all forms of gender-based violence, including sexual violence, and all forms of harassment, notably sexual harassment, Parliament stressed that there is still a need to promote and further enhance gender equality and the implementation of gender mainstreaming in the EU, including in management positions in the institutions.

The resolution called for the following measures:

- to make anti-harassment training available in all official languages or with interpretation and to target outreach activities at individual delegations and political groups;

- to create a public list of Members who have participated in these anti-harassment training sessions to be published on the website of the European Parliament as a good example for other Members;

- to improve awareness-raising and the introduction of compulsory training on Parliament’s zero-harassment policy for all people working in its premises;

- to aim to provide protection against victimisation of or retaliation against complainants, victims, witnesses and whistle-blowers;

- to set up a task force of independent experts be set up with a mandate to examine the situation of sexual harassment and abuse in Parliament;

- to exchange best practices with other institutions in tackling harassment, including anti-harassment policies, guidelines or any new provisions on how to deal with it.