Basic information

2024/2057(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Recommendation to the Council on the EU priorities for the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women **Subject** 4.10.09 Women condition and rights 6.40.13 Relations with/in the context of international organisations: UN, OSCE, OECD, Council of Europe, EBRD	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality	GÁLVEZ Lina (S&D)	10/10/2024
	Shadow rapporteur MELETI Eleonora (EPP) SCHEURING-WIELGUS Joanna (S&D) DE LA PISA CARRIÓN Margarita (PfE) TROCHU Laurence (ECR) AL-SAHLANI Abir (Renew) CAMARA Mélissa (Greens/EFA) GEDIN Hanna (The Left) BOSSDORF Irmhild (ESN)	

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Education, Youth, Sport and Culture	-- --
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	-- --
European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)	-- --
Justice and Consumers	-- --

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
10/10/2024	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

04/12/2024	Vote in committee		
06/12/2024	Committee report tabled for plenary	A10-0030/2024	Summary
19/12/2024	Decision by Parliament	T10-0075/2024	Summary
19/12/2024	Results of vote in Parliament		
19/12/2024	Debate in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2024/2057(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 121
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	FEMM/10/01092

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE765.072	10/10/2024	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE765.266	14/11/2024	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A10-0030/2024	06/12/2024	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T10-0075/2024	19/12/2024	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2025)04	22/04/2025	

Recommendation to the Council on the EU priorities for the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women

2024/2057(INI) - 06/12/2024 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality adopted a report by Lina GÁLVEZ (S&D, ES) on a European Parliament recommendation to the Council concerning the EU priorities for the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

The UN Commission on the Status of Women is a global body dedicated to promoting gender equality and empowering women. Its 69th session will take place in New York from 10–21 March 2025 and will focus on reviewing current progress on the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

The UN General Assembly has raised the alarm about the active resistance to achievements and advances in gender equality and the growing transnational backlash against women's rights. Sexual and gender-based violence as well as anti-rights movements threaten the fundamental rights of women and girls on a daily basis. Members stressed that there is a clear and urgent need to reaffirm, safeguard and develop gender equality and the human rights of women and girls.

Members recommended that the Council:

- confirm its commitment to human rights of women, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, through **gender mainstreaming** in all relevant policy areas and cycles, to the implementation of specific and targeted actions for human rights of women and gender equality, and to ensuring proper **gender budgeting**;

- ensure the full involvement of Parliament and its Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality in the decision-making process on the EU's position at the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women and further improve interinstitutional cooperation and informal consultation, including prior to and during negotiations, so that Parliament's priorities are properly incorporated;

- urge the remaining five Member States that have still not ratified and implemented the Istanbul Convention to do so in the shortest possible timeframe, and call on other countries to make progress towards signing and ratifying it;

- press for equal access to and opportunities in all areas of life, to allow women in all their diversity to fulfil their potential, notably also in decision-making, including political, economic, financial, academic, health, cultural and sports-related, this also being essential for good governance and policymaking;

- express **opposition to all forms of gender-based violence**, including online or offline;

- encourage measures that promote women's participation and gender balance in all high impact sectors, including **STEM**;

- emphasise the need to protect and promote the rights of groups experiencing intersectional forms of discrimination, including people with disabilities and people who are from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, racialised, from ethnic, minority or migrant backgrounds, older or LGBTIQ+, among others;

- implement, without delay and to the fullest extent, the **EU GAP III** and ensure that 85 % of all new actions throughout external relations contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment by 2027 at the latest;

- address and monitor the systemic and root causes of **female poverty** with an emphasis on those in rural areas or isolated and disadvantaged areas;

- promote **female entrepreneurship and women-led businesses** through an enabling environment for their economic activities, such as support programmes in partner countries, ensuring equitable access to business opportunities and training in entrepreneurial skills;

- ensure access to **social services**, including family support services, equal shares of **unpaid care** and social responsibilities through legislative initiatives, efforts to combat harmful gender stereotyping, patriarchal attitudes and systems and promote women as **role models**;

- remove the legal, financial, social and practical barriers and restrictions on access to **safe and legal abortion worldwide**;

- advocate firmly for the **defence of sexual and reproductive health** and rights as fundamental rights and fight against anti-choice networks; ensure that women and girls in all their diversity have information and access to affordable health services, including for sexual and reproductive health and rights.

Recommendation to the Council on the EU priorities for the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women

2024/2057(INI) - 19/12/2024 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 322 votes to 163, with 46 abstentions, a recommendation to the Council concerning the EU priorities for the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

Members recalled that gender equality is a fundamental and universal principle of the Union and that the Union's external action must be guided by this principle so that the Union may continue to lead by example and reinforce and respect its commitments on gender equality.

Ahead of the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in New York (March 2025), Parliament presented this comprehensive list outlining recommendations to advance gender equality, protect women's rights, and promote gender-sensitive policies across EU actions and external relations.

The **recommendations addressed** to the Council include:

- reaffirming the commitment to the **Beijing Declaration** and Platform for Action, as well as the commitment to work towards women's human rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, through **gender mainstreaming in all relevant cycles and policy areas**;

- implementing specific and targeted actions for women's human rights and gender equality, and ensuring **gender-responsive budgeting**;

- firmly opposing Saudi Arabia's chairing of the annual meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, given its poor record on women's rights;

- ensuring that gender equality and women's rights are fully implemented as a **central element of the EU's external action** through an approach that is adequately funded, inclusive and takes into account marginalised women and women in vulnerable situations;

- ensuring the full involvement of **Parliament** and its Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality in the decision-making process on the EU's position at the 69th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women;

- **reinvigorating the EU's efforts** to address remaining challenges and accelerate the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

- advocating for **equal access and opportunities** in all areas of life and encourage measures that promote women's participation and gender balance in all high-impact sectors, including science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM);

- expressing opposition to all forms of gender-based violence, including online and offline;

- advocating for equal access and opportunities in all areas of life, to enable women to fulfil their potential, including in decision-making;

- **promote more women in politics and leadership positions**, increase targeted investments in gender equality in services such as education and health;

- urging the remaining five Member States that have still not ratified and implemented the **Istanbul Convention** to do so in the shortest possible time frame, and calling on other countries to make progress towards signing and ratifying it;

- encouraging measures that promote women's participation and gender balance in all high impact sectors, including **STEM**;

- emphasising the need to protect and promote the rights of groups experiencing **intersectional forms of discrimination**, including people with disabilities and people who are from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds, racialised, from ethnic, minority or migrant backgrounds, older or LGBTIQ+, among others;

- implementing, without delay and to the fullest extent, the **EU Gender Equality Action Plan** III (GAP III) and ensuring that 85 % of all new actions throughout external relations contribute to gender equality and women's empowerment by 2027 at the latest;

- addressing and monitoring the systemic and root causes of **female poverty** with an emphasis on those in rural areas or isolated and disadvantaged areas;

- promoting **female entrepreneurship and women-led businesses** through an enabling environment for their economic activities, such as support programmes in partner countries, ensuring equitable access to business opportunities and training in entrepreneurial skills;

- ensuring access to **social services**, including family support services, equal shares of **unpaid care** and social responsibilities through legislative initiatives, efforts to combat harmful gender stereotyping, patriarchal attitudes and systems and promoting women as **role models**;

- removing the legal, financial, social and practical barriers and restrictions on access to **safe and legal abortion worldwide**;

- ensuring that women and girls in all their diversity have information and access to affordable health services, including for sexual and reproductive health and rights.