



TOGETHER FOR A FEMINIST EUROPE

OUR PRIORITIES FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION 2016//2020



We believe in a Feminist Europe in which an end to gender inequality is not only possible, but imperative, to achieve the well-being of all people and the planet.

We call on the European Union (EU), its institutions and its Member States to take on these priorities to achieve by 2020 real transformative change for women and girls in Europe and beyond.

European Women's Lobby 2016

CONTEXT From 2016 on, the international community has to deliver on the universal **Sustainable Development Goals**, adopted by the United Nations in 2015 as part of the Agenda 2030. Goal 5 aims to “**Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls**”. Since 2014, the European Union has for the first time a **European Commissioner dedicated to gender equality**; this political choice of the EU institutions must translate into transformational action. The European Women's Lobby, the largest coalition of women's rights organisations in Europe, will play an instrumental role towards change through the implementation of its new **Strategic Framework 'Together for a feminist Europe' (2016-2020)**.

✓ ENSURE INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS

- Adopt and implement an EU Strategy for Equality between Women and Men, which will set and achieve concrete targets in all areas of women's lives, and pave the way for a new 2020-2025 EU Strategy for Equality between Women and Men.
- Advance the position of the EU Commissioner for equality between women and men, with a strong role, budget, administration support and political recognition
- Institutionalise annual meetings of EU Ministers for women's rights and gender equality.
- Increase and sustain funding for women's rights and women's organisations, including in the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF).

✓ END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- Ratify and implement the Istanbul Convention, and establish monitoring mechanisms to reduce all forms of violence against women.
- Adopt legislation on ending prostitution and sexual exploitation by adopting the Nordic Model on prostitution and sex trafficking.
- Adopt strategies and programmes to support the adoption and implementation of programmes on sexuality education and relationships in formal and non-formal education for young people.
- Adopt strategies and programmes to support women and girls migrating and fleeing conflicts and end all forms of violence against them, regardless of their migration and/or legal status.

✓ PROMOTE A FEMINIST ECONOMIC MODEL, BASED ON EQUALITY, WELL-BEING, CARE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

- Reduce by 5% the gender pay gap at national and European level.
- Reduce by 10% the gender pension gap at national and European level.
- Adopt a directive on paternity leave and strengthen the current EU directive on maternity leave, particularly with regards to pay.
- Increase visibility and demand for best practices/models in childcare, care for dependent persons and elderly care, and adopt new progressive parental leave legislation.
- Set and achieve concrete economic and social targets which include gender equality within the wider EU fiscal framework.
- Include feminist economic analyses in the next common European framework post 'Europe 2020' with strong, enforceable targets for women's equality and recognition for and support to the development of the care economy.
- Implement gender equality budgeting at local, national and EU level.

✓ CHALLENGE AND CHANGE THE CULTURE OF SEXISM AND STEREOTYPES

- Prohibit sexism and stereotypes in the media and education through the adoption of an EU directive, in line with the equal treatment directive.
- Adopt codes of conduct to tackle sexism, sexist communication and sexist behaviours in the work place and work programme of the EU and national institutions.

✓ POSITION WOMEN AT THE HEART OF DECISION-MAKING

- Develop strategies to achieve more women elected in the European Parliament in the 2019 elections, and as many women as men in the College of Commissioners.
- Use the EU Directive on women on boards as a tool to push for more women in the boards of big companies, as well as in other institutions, such as public institutions, middle-sized companies, university juries, courts, banks and media.

Half the population, half the future! Our future starts now!