

“Everyone is equal anyway?”

No! Women and LGBTIQ*-persons are still being discriminated against in the EU:



They are paid less, carry out more unpaid work, receive less of a pension, occupy fewer management positions and experience more violence and sexual harassment - all because of their gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

That's why **gender equality** is important!

What is gender equality?



Gender equality goes beyond equality between men and women and includes **trans***, **inter***, and **non-binary people**:

People of all genders should have the same **rights** and **opportunities**.

What is the EU doing?

The EU recognises that there is still a lot to be done to achieve gender equality:



The **Commission** has a Task Force for Equality and a Commissioner for Equality.



The **Parliament** has the FEMM Committee, which is a dedicated forum for Members of Parliament to advocate for gender equality through legislative proposals, reports, and other formats.



In the **Council of the EU**, national ministers meet at the EPSCO Council four times a year to discuss and coordinate employment policy and social affairs, including equality.

EU measures

In 2019, the EU Commission President proclaimed the **Union of Equality**: All genders should be taken into account in political measures at EU level.

Examples of this include the strategy for gender equality and the strategy for LGBTIQ* people

Various laws and initiatives are intended to have a positive impact on gender equality, e.g:

- Directive on pay transparency for equal pay between women and men
- Initiative to strengthen the legal protection of LGBTIQ* people against hate crimes, hate speech and violence
- Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence

The EU has an influence on gender equality in Europe. Depending on the composition of the Parliament and the Council, the EU's impact can be advancing or regressing on questions of equality.

Sources

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Observatory for sociopolitical developments in Europe
Main office: Zeilweg 42, D-60439 Frankfurt a. M.
+49 (0)69 - 95 78 9-0
Berlin office: Lahnstraße 19, D-12055 Berlin
+49 (0)30 - 616 717 9-0

Responsible according to the German press law: Benjamin Landes
(V. i. S. d. P.)
Friederike Sprang, Hannah Helal
beobachtungsstelle@iss-ffm.de

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