



Building a Common Secure and Democratic Future

28-29 November 2016
Brussels

Resolution No. 3/AA/2016

November 29, 2016, Brussels

Resolution of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum on gender policy

The 8th Annual Assembly of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum approves the gender agenda as a priority of the work of the EaP CSF.

The EaP CSF National Platforms regard the promotion of gender equality as one of the common values integral to the process of democratic transformation and European integration. The more significant is the number of members of the EaP CSF National Platforms who are involved in projects on gender equality, the more likely is the scenario of the sustainable development initiatives in those countries.

Research shows that gender-based problems are present in all EaP countries, such as a high level of domestic violence, gender-based discrimination, pay gaps, a heightened economic vulnerability among women, and a low or formal representation and participation of women in decision-making. Gender issues remain marginalised by comparison with other priorities of the EaP CSF, such as civil rights protection, environmental conservation and other thematic areas. To conclude, the EaP CSF National Platforms do not grant the issue as much prominence as it merits given the current state of gender inequality.

The following actions should be taken by EaP CSF in line with the recommendations of the European Parliament.¹

- To hold an annual EaP Gender Policy Forum organized by the gender subgroup of the EaP CSF. The Forum would reflect and analyse relevant gender issues, as well as develop a strategy addressing those issues in line with national priorities and international standards in the sphere of human rights and gender equality;
- To ensure implementation of this resolution and the durability of the gender policy of the EaP CSF, gender subgroups are to be set up by the EaP CSF National Platforms. Their function would be to monitor programmes and projects of the EaP CSF, as well as EU funded projects in the EaP countries and to develop cooperation with the state bodies in order to improve the implementation of the gender equality obligations at the state level;

¹AFET/DROI Opinion on women's rights in the Eastern Partnership States and other neighbouring countries (2016/2060(INI))
<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONSGML+COMPARL+PE585.433+02+DOC+PDF+V0//EN&language=MT>



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- To develop cooperation with political parties, trade unions and other movements in order to strengthen the participation and influence of women in decision-making, political and public life in the EaP countries;
- To implement joint projects within the framework of the EaP CSF;
- To mainstream gender into the EaP CSF National Platforms and to review the policies and regulations of the National Platforms so that they are gender-sensitive;
- To develop cooperation among the gender subgroups of the EaP CSF National Platforms, and with key stakeholders participating in the implementation of EU programmes in EaP countries in order to identify joint strategies on gender equality, advocacy and watchdog activities.