



Doc. 14627

26 September 2018

The gender dimension of foreign policy

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Ms Petra STIENEN and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

An increasing number of countries have integrated a gender perspective in their foreign policy with the understanding that a gender approach is beneficial for all citizens. The Netherlands, Sweden, Finland, France, the United Kingdom and Canada have been pioneers in this regard. International organisations such as the Council of Europe, the European Union and the United Nations do the same in their respective co-operation policies and external actions. Notably, gender is mainstreamed in the UN Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and progress in achieving these goals is measured regularly.

In 2014 Sweden became the first country to officially pursue a feminist foreign policy. Its aim is to contribute to gender equality and the full enjoyment of human rights by all women and girls.

In addition to the fact that gender equality is a human right in itself, the idea of a feminist foreign policy is gaining traction in the light of a growing body of research suggesting that greater gender equality would make the world more sustainable, richer and safer. This understanding has grown as a result of the work of the United Nations on the link between women, peace and security, and the 2030 Agenda.

The Parliamentary Assembly should examine the different approaches through which the gender perspective in foreign policy can help promote gender equality and women's rights. It should identify priority areas for action and draw up a resolution addressed to Council of Europe member States, focusing on experiences and good practices, and subsequently make recommendations to the member States. The Assembly's work should be seen as a contribution to the debate which is already under way in a number of member States, as a possible source of inspiration for others and as a tool to make progress towards the achievement of the SDGs.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

STIENEN Petra, Netherlands, ALDE
ATSEMYAN Karine, Armenia, EC
BADEA Viorel Riceard, Romania, EPP/CD
BAYR Petra, Austria, SOC
BEUS RICHEMBERGH Goran, Croatia, ALDE
BRUYN Piet, De, Belgium, NR
BUDNER Margareta, Poland, EC
DAMYANOVA Milena, Bulgaria, EPP/CD
ESTRELA Edite, Portugal, SOC
FRESKO-ROLFO Béatrice, Monaco, ALDE
GAILLOT Albane, France, NR
GLASOVAC Sabina, Croatia, SOC
GORROTXATEGUI Miren Edurne, Spain, UEL
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
GURMAI Zita, Hungary, SOC
KOVÁCS Elvira, Serbia, EPP/CD
LABLAK Aicha, Morocco
MUNYAMA Killian, Poland, EPP/CD
ORTLEB Josephine, Germany, SOC
OVERBEEK Henk, Netherlands, UEL
PANTIĆ PILJA Biljana, Serbia, EPP/CD
PARVIAINEN Olli-Poika, Finland, SOC
PAVIĆEVIĆ Sanja, Montenegro, SOC
SILVA Adão, Portugal, EPP/CD
THIÉRY Damien, Belgium, ALDE
TORNARE Manuel, Switzerland, SOC
VEN Mart, van de, Netherlands, ALDE

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC: European Conservatives Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group
UEL: Group of the Unified European Left
NR: Representatives not belonging to a Political Group