



## 56<sup>th</sup> iMEP Sofia – Bulgaria 12.-19. 11. 2022

### Committee Issues

#### GROUP A

#### 1. Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM)

##### **The question of reducing gender bias and modernizing the workspace:**

Professionals for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) are in great demand. The number of men working in traditionally male-dominated fields like STEM still greatly surpasses the number of women. As these scientific fields become increasingly more important with regards to digitalization, development, healthcare etc.

What measures should the EU take to simultaneously promote gender equality in male dominated fields and modernize the workspace? How can gender bias be reduced in the job market?

#### 2. Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL)

##### **The question of hybrid working methods:**

The growing application of hybrid working methods have put pressure on individuals use of home space, private infrastructure, health and social communication. In this new work environment, how can the EU protect the fundamental rights of privacy and the wellbeing of workers and employees?

#### 3. Committee on Transport and Tourism (TRAN)

##### **The question of solving the gridlock:**

Solving the gridlock: With 75 % of EU citizens living in urban areas, how can the EU contribute to the development of urban mobility while safeguarding public health and sustainability, as well as accessibility and transport efficiency?

#### 4. Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI I)

##### **The question of an increasingly sedentary lifestyle:**

Sitting is the new smoking: At an average of €80.4 billion per year, the expenses tied to the consequences of physical inactivity amongst Europeans are rising. How can the EU and its Member States respond to an increasingly sedentary lifestyle and preserve the health of their citizens?

#### 5. Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE)

##### **The question of a self-sufficient energy market:**

Considering the volatile state of the market, and the EU severing its ties with Russia, which steps could be taken to ensure a self-sufficient energy market within

the European Union?

GROUP B

**6. Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE)**

**The question of universal healthcare in the EU:**

The idea of a non-discriminating health sector has been enshrined in the charter of fundamental rights, yet a 2020 study by the Agency of Fundamental Rights (FRA) suggests that ethnic minorities receive worse treatment. How can the EU further ensure the protection of equal access to healthcare for ethnic minorities?

**7. Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO)**

**The question of extending GDPR rights:**

Whereas the 2016 GDPR focuses on protecting the privacy rights of individuals, large digital companies are still free to sample and collect anonymous data (Big Data) to either sell or use for personal gain. Given the potential for misuse - such as price discrimination - should the EU's data protection laws stretch beyond individual privacy for the sake of its consumers?

**8. Committee on International Trade (INTA)**

**The question of restoring supply chains:**

Russia's invasion and the consequences of the war are having a devastating effect on supply chains, in particular, on the access to wheat and fertilisers, putting millions of people across Africa at risk of food shortages, famine, emigration, and civil unrest. Which measures can be taken by the European Union and its Member States to counter this development.

**9. Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI II)**

**The question of plastic:**

High consumption of single-use plastic carrier bags, their inappropriate end-of-life treatment and their resistance to degradation are damaging the environment, especially its various eco-systems. There are also additional implications for human and animal health and resource efficiency. What measures should be taken by the European Union on a transnational level?

**10. Committee on Foreign Interference in all Democratic Processes in the European Union, including Disinformation (INGE)**

**The question of combatting the use of government spyware:**

With the aggravating use of spyware - like Pegasus - as well as disinformation campaigns influencing the internal politics of Member States, how can the EU combat interference of democratic processes?