

Resolution adopted by the EPP Congress, Bonn, 9-10 December 2009

WOMEN AND THE ECONOMIC CRISIS

The EPP:

- being gathered in Bonn on 9 and 10 December 2009;
- having a thorough debate on how to recover from the global economic and financial crisis;
- taking into consideration that during the year 2009 a specific debate has taken place within the EPP Women on the issue *Women and the economic crisis*;
- have formulated the underneath recommendations;
- addressing the European Commission and the EU Member States in particular;

The European Commission as well as the EU Member States should:

The EPP member parties and the women's organisations within these parties should:

1. take into account the gender dimension in future initiatives taken to counteract the crisis or limit its impact.
2. ensure that all proposed policies are subject routinely to gender impact assessment, as a matter of good policy making, and undertake gender impact assessment of the measures currently being taken on EU level as well as on national level.
3. analyse and publish key employment data by gender, to improve understanding and monitoring of the gender impact of the economic and financial crisis, and to facilitate the identification of measures to ameliorate adverse impacts.
4. target policies in a gender-sensitive way, including recognising that women may be exposed to additional financial insecurity as a result of lower pay, broken employment histories and limited financial reserves.
5. build a gender budget mechanism into its work to increase gender equality.
6. make efforts to improve women's participation at all levels of decision-making, especially in the areas of budgets.
7. continue to support the EU Network as well as national networks of women in decision-making in politics and the economy.
8. consider further adaptation of the European Structural Funds as well as national funds to focus on additional support for areas of women's employment likely to be affected by the crisis.
9. continue its focus on reconciliation measures and take steps to promote these as good practice for both men and women including improving the status of part-time work.
10. consider that adult education should play a key role in policies to promote a general culture of learning through media campaigns, information, and take appropriate measures to tackle the low employment rates of female and older workers, in particular those who have had atypical career paths or lack ICT skills; put therefore in place the necessary conditions to provide lifelong learning services at every level to facilitate progress in employment, whether it be first time entry, a return to employment or the wish to prolong working life.

11. recognise the impact of multiple disadvantage in the context of addressing the economic crisis, and ensure that measures pay attention to women in particularly vulnerable positions – for example, older women, single parents, disabled women and migrants.
12. provide additional resources to enable civil society organisations, especially women organisations, to identify ways of contributing to economic recovery and to combating poverty and social exclusion.
13. urge the EPP to follow up on the implementation of the above recommendations and urge the EPP women's organisations to actively monitor their governments, parliaments and their parties on the implementation of above recommendations.
14. insist that the gender dimension included in the Lisbon strategy ensures that employment of women will not suffer of negative effects of the economic crisis but will find new opportunities in it.