

Gender-sensitive Parliaments

Domain 3 – Oversight of gender equality

This domain explores the activities carried out by the parliament to oversee gender equality in government action; to monitor the implementation of international conventions and agreements; to monitor the gender impact of legislation; and arrange gender oriented stakeholder consultation.

Oversight of government action is one of the core functions of parliaments and a crucial issue for transparent and non-corrupted democracy. Oversight can be defined as any activity that involves examining the expenditure, administration and policies of the government. Oversight activities include, for example, questioning of ministers, holding public hearings, reviewing reports from government departments, and examining audit reports. Overseeing the executive action with specific reference to gender equality allows parliaments to effectively foster it and – at the same time – to increase their own gender-sensitivity.

Further information on the parliament function of oversight can be found on www.agora-parl.org.