

The EU policy context

The positive impacts of gender equality can be largely attributed to addressing some of the structural weaknesses of the EU economy, identified in the Europe 2020 strategy: employment, productivity and population ageing issues.

To achieve smart, sustainable and inclusive growth the European Union needs to start mainstreaming gender equality now.



Extra Gains

Tackling all gender equalities together is better than tackling them one by one. EIGE's study shows that gender equality in one domain has spill-over effects in other domains, e.g. more women in STEM studies can lead to improvements in labour market activity rates of women, and an increase in women's wages.

Fostering a greater participation of women in the labour market and ensuring pay equality is crucial to meet the Europe 2020 target to achieve an overall employment rate of women and men of at least 75% by 2020.

Putting gender equality at the heart of the follow-up strategy of Europe 2020 and other policy reforms would make the economic system more inclusive. It would enable women to fulfil their full potential and benefit everyone in society.

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