

Regeringens skrivelse 2011/12:3 Jämställdhetspolitikens inriktning 2011–2014

The Government's direction for the Gender Equality politics in Sweden 2011-2014. The objective of the Swedish gender equality policy is that women and men are to have the same power to shape society and their own lives.

The following interim objectives indicate the direction of the Government's policy in the area:

- Equal division of power and influence. Women and men must have the same rights and opportunities to be active citizens and to shape the conditions for decision-making.
- Economic equality. Women and men must have the same opportunities and conditions as regards education and paid work which give economic independence throughout life.
- Equal distribution of unpaid housework and provision of care. Women and men must have the same responsibility for housework and have the opportunity to give and receive care on equal terms.
- Men's violence against women must stop. Women and men, girls and boys, must have the same right to, and possibility of, physical integrity.

Gender equality policy was allocated SEK 1.6 billion for the period 2007-2010 and almost SEK 1 billion for the period 2011-2014. Taken together, this is the largest investment in gender equality ever made in Sweden. A part from the special gender equality allocation, initiatives for women's enterprise, gender equality bonus and tax credit for household services were financed with other funds. This means that the budget for promoting gender equality in practice is even larger.

During the previous electoral period, the Government adopted three action programmes: one to combat men's violence against women, honour-related violence and oppression, and violence in same-sex relations; one to strengthen efforts against prostitution and trafficking in human beings for sexual purposes; and one to prevent and hinder young people from marrying against their will. The Government also adopted a strategy for gender equality in the labour market and the business sector. In a communication to the Riksdag in March 2012, the Government presented the direction of gender equality policy during the period 2011-2014.

In 2013 work will continue on:

- developing and creating the conditions for integrating a gender perspective into all activities of central government, municipalities and county councils,
- promoting gender equality in the labour market,
- continuing to promote gender equality in schools,
- continuing to increase knowledge of women's health,
- combating men's violence against women, honour-related violence and oppression, and violence in same-sex relations, and preventing young people from marrying against their will,
- combating prostitution and trafficking in human beings for sexual purposes.

Budget for 2013: SEK 239 million will be allocated to gender equality policy in 2013.

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