

Gender-sensitive Parliaments

Area 4: The parliament produces gender-sensitive LEGISLATION

Gender mainstreaming and laws

Equality Law – Spain: A national framework to support gender equality

The Equality Law of 2007 focuses on the right to work, the right to political participation and the right to accede to and pursue a career in the public sector. In these spheres, the law establishes mandatory and positive actions and policies, such as Strategic Equal Opportunities Plans, the creation of an Inter-Ministerial Commission on Equality, the inclusion of gender impact reports in every law or national plan, as well as regular reports on the effectiveness of the law.

Source: [Inter-Parliamentary Union \(2011\) Gender-sensitive parliaments: A global review of good practices.](#)

See also: [UNDP \(2013\), Parliaments and gender equality: Gender mainstreaming in legislatures.](#)

Gender Mainstreaming Act – Belgium: A comprehensive law to mainstream gender equality in policies

Belgium's Gender Mainstreaming Act of 2007 provides the legal basis for a compulsory identification of government funds earmarked for the promotion of gender equality and therefore lays the foundations for gender-sensitive budgeting. It also imposes a "gender test" for every new policy measure. Furthermore, it compels the federal government to define strategic objectives with respect to gender equality at the beginning of the legislature for every policy area falling under its remit. The act also provides for follow-up and evaluation of these actions.

Source: [IPU \(2011\) Gender-Sensitive Parliaments: A global review of good practice.](#)