

Grey literature on the digital agenda

What is grey literature? It is literature produced by non-commercial publishers, such as public institutions, universities, research institutes and civil society. It contains a lot of useful content, but is often hard to find as it is scattered across different loca-

tions. EIGE has collected grey literature on gender equality and you can access our collection through a simple search interface. EIGE's collection of grey literature is available in several EU languages and documents come from all EU Member States.

The relevance of gender in the digital agenda

The digital revolution has brought both opportunities and challenges. The European Union's digital agenda strategy aims to ensure that digital technologies are used to stimulate Europe's economy and benefit citizens and businesses. However, there are several gender gaps in the digital field. Fewer women than men have access to the internet and women are also less likely to participate in ICT-related education and employment.

Technology also makes it easier for women and men to participate in democratic processes. However, technology has also become a platform for new forms of harassment against women.



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Grey literature in EIGE's library

EIGE's library hosts one of the largest collections on gender-related literature related to the digital agenda. The collection presents **good practices** of current policies throughout Europe as well as **gender indicators** to assess the impact of the digital agenda on women and

men. Several resources focus on the ways in which the EU has mainstreamed gender into **policy processes** for the digital agenda. You will also find **research reports** and **statistical documents** providing data on key gender issues related to the digital agenda.

Empowerment and participation

Digital technologies bring new social, political and economic opportunities for women and girls. They can be a tool for empowering women and increasing their participation in democratic processes. Technology can help women exchange information, make better-informed decisions, build solidarity and influence political decision-makers.

In the library you will find resources showing how social media can increase women's **participation in public life** and women's influence over decision-making processes. The internet and social media have become

a major component of social mobilisation, and women's organisations as well as human rights defenders have taken advantage of this.

Reading list

Do digital information and communications technologies increase the voice and influence of women and girls? A rapid review of the evidence.

Employment

Science and technology education is still a male domain. The **gender gap** observed in **science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM)** subjects is of particular concern since it determines future employment prospects of women in the ICT sector.

In the library you will find **statistics** on the gender gap in educational choices and women's participation in educational fields related to the ICT sector; policy documents providing **recommendations**; and research reports giving examples of **initiatives** to get more girls into STEM and ICT education. The research highlights that gender

gaps in educational and career choices are a result of **gender stereotypes**, cultural norms, lack of confidence, anxiety and risk aversion that start early in life.

Reading list

Women Active in the ICT Sector;

Efforts to increase students' interest in pursuing mathematics, science and technology studies and careers.

Cyber violence against women

Technology can be used to harass and sexually exploit women. Cyber harassment and cyberstalking are of particular concern in countries with high rates of internet access. Young girls are especially vulnerable as they use technologies to communicate more frequently than boys.

The expansion of cyber violence calls for the rapid implementation of prevention measures and victim support. The library includes a number of documents proposing

recommendations and guidelines on necessary measures to **combat** online violence.

Reading list

Violence Against Women: an EU-wide Survey — Main results.

About EIGE

The European Institute for Gender Equality is the EU knowledge centre on gender equality. EIGE supports policymakers and all relevant institutions in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all Europeans and beyond, by providing them with specific expertise and comparable and reliable information on gender equality in Europe. With over 800 000 items, EIGE's Resource and Documentation Centre is a one-stop shop for gender knowledge. Access our collection of policy documents, books, articles, studies, specialised databases and more at www.eige.europa.eu

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