

EWLA

General Assembly Resolution

on

Gender Mainstreaming

May 12, 2007

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The General Assembly of the European Women Lawyers Association (EWLA), held on May 12, 2007 in Zurich, Switzerland, unanimously adopted the following

RESOLUTION ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Having regard to

- The fundamental importance of equality of men and women in all areas of EU law, as expressed in the European Treaties, in particular in Arts. 2 and 3(2) EC;

The General Assembly of EWLA acknowledges

- the efforts of European actors to strive towards equality;
- several important steps taken towards the elimination of discrimination, including:
 - the EU Gender Institute,
 - the promotion of Gender Impact Assessment in the EU Commission,
 - the inclusion of gender equality as a horizontal objective of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency,
 - the European Council Gender Equality Pact,
 - the comprehensive protection against discrimination in the EU Constitution.

We note with concern a tendency to lose sight of

- the specificities of discrimination regarding gender, on the way to foster diversity and equality for all,
- the justice dimension of gender equality, and to sometimes focus exclusively on economic efficiency (“the Business Case”).

Thus EWLA calls on all responsible actors in Europe

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- to seriously and consistently pursue Gender Mainstreaming, including to prioritize and make it visible – on the website of the EU, in the work of public bodies, and throughout all activities,
- to put substantial institutional and financial resources behind the implementation of Article 3(2) EC,
- to ratify Protocol No. 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights,¹
- to ensure balanced participation of women and men of diverse backgrounds on all levels of deliberation and decision making.

¹ Of 4 November 2000, European Treaty Series (ETS) No. 177.

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