

Towards a “PINK NEW DEAL”

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At this particular time in European public life, is it necessary to focus on the identification of useful tools to achieve real gender equality: to act only on the labour market, and its rules? Operate by specific forms of taxation? Or call into question the whole division of care work at home and outside? What are the duties of governments, central and local, and those of businesses and trade unions?

From the answers, yet to be formulated, could emerge a new framework of economic policy, a so-called "pink new deal", recalling the "Roosevelt" way out from the biggest recession in history, that of 1929. Introducing a gender perspective on the recovery measures would help to get out of the current crisis sooner or better. In brief:

- **National governments and national parliaments** should fully acknowledge the scope for **fiscal policies to enhance female labour force participation**:
 - Replacing family income taxation with individual income taxation.
 - Using tax credits or benefits for low-wage earners to stimulate labour force participation, including amongst women.
- The **European Parliament** should urge all institutional actors to **remove labour market distortions** and create a level playing field for measures that would help boost the demand for women's labour:
 - Increasing the awareness of legal rights to equal treatment.
 - Empowering national equality bodies.



- **European Commission** should reconsider the formulation of **indicators of gender equality** to monitor the social impact of the crisis:
 - Cooperate with EIGE to improve the quantity and quality of sex-disaggregated data.
 - Monitor (with EIGE) the area *Women and the Economy* of the Beijing Platform for Action.
 - Include outcomes into annual report(s).

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