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NEWS REPORT

Country:	Spain
Title:	The Government approves the Comprehensive Family Support Plan 2015-2017, which includes the commitment to increase pensions for mothers
Date:	July 2015
Expert:	María-Amparo Ballester-Pastor
<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Increase of pensions to mothers
Ground of discrimination:	Sex
Source:	Resolution of the Council of Ministers of 14 May 2015
Field:	Pregnancy and maternity
Applicable law:	Planned law

Content

Policy development: On 14 May 2015, the Council of Ministers approved the Comprehensive Family Support Plan 2015-2017. The Plan has an annual budget of EUR 5.5 million to fund welfare measures, measures to encourage a work-family balance, maternity incentives, and tax deductions for single-parent and large families. However, most of the measures that the Plan contains are already in force. In fact the only novelty of the Plan is the announcement of an increase in pensions for mothers. from 2016 onwards, and provided the measure is finally approved, the Plan will give working mothers who retire an additional 5 % on their pension cheques if they had two children, 10 % if they had three, and 15 % if they had more than three. However, this measure is simply a commitment of the current ruling party. To be in force it will have to be presented as a bill and approved after the appropriate legal procedure. It should also be borne in mind that there will be general elections in Spain before the end of the year.

Key points of analysis: On 14 May 2015 the Government approved the Comprehensive Family Support Plan 2015-2017. This includes the commitment of the current ruling party in Spain to give working mothers who retire an additional 5 % on their pension cheques if they had two children, 10 % if they had three children, and 15 % if they had more than three children. However, this commitment has no impact until the measures are presented in a bill, and the forthcoming general elections in Spain may disrupt this legal process.

Internet link source: -Official web page of the Government informing about the Plan: <http://www.lamoncloa.gob.es/consejodeministros/Paginas/enlaces/140515enlacefamilia.aspx>, accessed 3 June 2015
-Press commentary in English: http://elpais.com/elpais/2015/05/14/inenglish/1431612096_240747.html, accessed 3 June 2015.