



## **European network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination**

### **NEWS REPORT**

<b>Country:</b>	Sweden
<b>Title:</b>	No legislative proposal regarding gender balance on company boards
<b>Date:</b>	24 February 2017
<b>Expert:</b>	Jenny Julén Votinius
<b><u>Context</u></b>	
<b>Issue at stake:</b>	Increase in the number of women on company boards
<b>Ground of discrimination</b>	Sex
<b>Field:</b>	Employment
<b>Applicable law:</b>	Companies Act

### **Content**

In September 2016, a Government ministry report (Ds 2016:32) suggested an amendment to the Companies Act to increase the share of women on company boards. The Government declared as its intention to present a legislative proposal in late February 2017, requiring at least 40 percent representation of each sex on boards of companies listed in the stock exchange.

In January 2017, the Parliamentary Committee on Civil Affairs stated that the gender balance of company boards shall continue to be a matter for company owners to decide upon themselves. The declaration from the Committee, was a clear message that a majority of the Parliament would vote against the planned legislative proposal.

Following the Parliamentary Committee's declaration, the Minister for Enterprise and Innovation, Mikael Damberg, announced that the Government had abandoned its plans to present a legislative proposal regarding gender representation on company boards.

### **Internet link source:**

<http://www.regeringen.se/4a58e0/contentassets/d5335167a2ee4e17b4dd025c3a78b784/jamn-konsfordelning-i-bolagsstyrelser-ds-201632>

Government ministry report Ds 2016:32 (available in Swedish only)