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FLASH REPORT

Country:	Italy
Title:	Recommendations approved by Parliament regarding multiple discrimination on the ground of sex and disability
Date:	22 January 2020
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<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Equal opportunities for disabled women
Grounds of discrimination:	Gender, Disability
Field of application:	All fields
Source:	Policy development

Content

Policy development: Parliament recently approved four Recommendations presented by various political parties aimed at tackling multiple discrimination on the ground of gender and disability. The Recommendations are based on the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (ratified by the European Union on 5 January 2011), and on the European Parliament resolution of 29 November 2018 on the situation of women with disabilities. Moreover, the Recommendations mention several Reports underlining the particularly disadvantageous position of disabled women such as, for instance, the Report of the National Observatory on Health in Italian Regions for 2015 (showing that the percentage of disabled women who gain access to prevention clinical test is 15 points lower than the percentage of other women), data of Istat for 2015 (the National Institute for Statistics, showing that the risk to be victim of gender violence is double for disabled women), and data of the project Creating Leaders for the future 2018 (showing that the rate of employment of disabled women is ten percent lower than the rate of employment of disabled men). All Recommendations have been discussed on 15 October 2019, and unanimously approved by Parliament on 16 October 2019.

Key points of analysis: The Recommendations encourage the Government to tackle multiple discrimination on the ground of gender and disability by means of the following policies:

- enhancing mainstreaming these issues in all public policies;
- assuring full access to health care for disabled women (also regarding sexuality) as well as protecting their right of self-determination in this sphere;
- promoting the professional training of the personnel of the Health Care System to give assistance to disabled women;
- making sure that disabled women are well informed regarding options to report and sustained in claiming their rights in case they are victim of violence or discrimination; ensuring that the National Extraordinary Plan against gender violence¹ fully takes into

¹ The National Extraordinary Plan, is a plan presented by the Government which stipulates measures aimed at the prevention of violence against women by raising social awareness, professional training and social

- consideration the particular disadvantaged position of disabled women;
- promoting the participation of disabled women in the labour market, society and sports;
- including multiple discrimination issues in all campaigns aimed at tackling gender discrimination or disability discrimination;
- enhancing all initiatives by using EU Funds aimed at tackling discrimination of disabled women;
- promoting a monitoring system to evaluate both the extent of this kind of multiple discrimination and the effectiveness of the measures taken to tackle it.

Although the Recommendation is a soft measure, the approval of these documents is still very important as it focuses the attention on an issue which is frequently ignored in Italy. In fact, as underlined by Lisa Noja, the member of Parliament who presented the Recommendation of the left and centre-left parties, all issues entering Parliament also open a public debate.

Internet link source:

Motion n. I-00243 of 24 September 2019, as modified and finally approved on 15 October 2019, first signatory Luisa Noja and other Parliament members of the Centre-Left parties together with Five Star Party ones,

<http://aic.camera.it/aic/scheda.html?core=aic&numero=1/00243&ramo=CAMERA&leg=18>;

Motion n.-00262 of 14 October 2019 as modified and finally approved on 15 October 2019, first signatory Francesco Lollobrigida, and other Parliament members of Fratelli d'Italia,

<http://aic.camera.it/aic/scheda.html?core=aic&numero=1/00262&ramo=CAMERA&leg=18>;

Motion n. I-00263 of 14 October, as modified and finally approved on 15 October 2019, first signatory Versace Giuseppina and other Parliament members of Forza Italia,

<http://aic.camera.it/aic/scheda.html?core=aic&numero=1/00263&ramo=CAMERA&leg=18>;

Motion n. I-00264 of Motion n. I-00263 of 14 October as modified on 15 October 2019 and finally approved on 16 October, Locatelli Alessandra, and other Parliament members of Lega,

<http://aic.camera.it/aic/scheda.html?core=aic&numero=1/00264&ramo=CAMERA&leg=18>.

education, treatment of abusers; support for women who have experienced violence with by the creation and the consolidation of specialist support services and shelters, economic and financial empowerment of women and incentives to housing autonomy; prosecution and punishment of the violence perpetrators; regularly monitoring of plan effects and impact; constitution of a sort of control room in order to coordinate the local and national policies geared to face violence against women.