Follow-up to the European Parliament non-legislative resolution on EU priorities for the 70th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women

1. **Rapporteur:** Lina GÁLVEZ (S&D / ES)

2. **References:** 2025/2240(INI) / A10-0010/2026 / P10_TA(2026)0051

3. **Date of adoption of the resolution:** 12 February 2026

4. **Competent Parliamentary Committee:** Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality (FEMM)

5. **Brief analysis/ assessment of the resolution and requests made in it:**

The European Parliament calls on the Council to take on board **recommendations regarding the Parliament's priorities for the EU position for the 70th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW70).** The recommendations focus on the priority theme of this year's session, related to women's rights and access to justice, including through full and equal participation of women in decision-making processes and the need to combat gender-based violence, including sexual violence as a weapon of war, and to ensure access to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) .

The Parliament requests the Council to **ensure their full involvement in the CSW session** and further **improve interinstitutional cooperation**, including during the negotiations, so that Parliament's priorities are properly incorporated and that they are fully briefed.

The Parliament stresses to push for **ensuring and promoting victims' rights** to timely offender-paid compensation within criminal proceedings and for exchanging best practice to prevent secondary victimisation, including through state subrogation mechanisms.

The Parliament calls for concrete actions and measures to **ensure women's participation and leadership in decision-making in public life,** including in the areas of foreign policy, defence and security **and the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts and crises**.

The Parliament underlines the importance of **guaranteeing effective access to justice** for women and girls and for the **elimination of obstacles** in particular for disadvantaged and vulnerable groups of women who often face barriers in accessing justice and ensure adequate victim-centred support and protection services in cases of gender-based violence.

The Parliament calls for **gender mainstreaming and gender budgeting in all EU policy areas**, including external action.

The Parliament stresses the importance of efforts to **ensure broad and equitable access to SRHR globally** and reaffirms that access to safe

and legal abortion is a fundamental component of women's SRHR and essential to their bodily autonomy.

The Parliament calls for the EU to **condemn the use of rape and other forms of sexual violence as a weapon of war** and to actively work to ensure the **prosecution of and accountability for these types of crimes at international level**, including through the application of the EU Global Human Rights Sanctions Regime, and to strengthen support for international efforts to document these crimes in ongoing conflicts and for prevention measures.

The Parliament calls for the EU to **commit to a foreign, development and security policy**, which is **inclusive and intersectional**, prioritising the needs of women and LGBTIQ+ human rights defenders and to actively promote actively promote access to SRHR as part of achieving the SDGs in external action.

Last but not least, the Parliament calls upon the Council to **defend the mandate of the UN CSW** in the light of efforts by the United States and aligned countries to weaken agreed gender-equality priorities, and express concern that such political pressure, combined with funding cuts to gender-equality programmes, risks undermining the effectiveness and credibility of the CSW, calls upon the Member States to **ensure funding for development aid** and to reaffirm the **full support for the work of UN Women**.

6. Response to requests and overview of actions taken, or intended to be taken, by the Commission:

The Commission takes note of the recommendations included in this resolution which are addressed to the Council, in view of their position during CSW70. These recommendations are largely in line with the EU position that was adopted in the working party on Human rights (COHOM) in December 2025.

The Commission marks their gratitude to the European Parliament for the European Parliament's input in the preparatory work as well as for their participation in the CSW session.

Given the push back against gender equality and the geopolitical context, it is of utmost importance to show that the EU takes up a leadership role in the promotion of and in upholding the achievements regarding gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls in the world. This was tangible in the difficult adoption process of agreed conclusions for the priority theme of CSW70, which were adopted by vote, contrary to previous practice of agreeing by consensus. The EU had an important role in the positive outcome. The EU's strong stance on gender equality is equally important in side events and bilateral meetings throughout the CSW session.

The participation of the delegation of the European Parliament reinforces the EU delegation to CSW70. It highlights the importance the EU attaches to a multilateral approach and to the Commission on the Status of Women, the largest UN gathering on women's rights.