

Terry Reintke, MEP

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Invitation: Handover of Petition

Dear President Tajani,

on the 26th October 2017 we have adopted a resolution on "Combatting sexual harassment in the EU". This resolution was adopted by a large majority (580 votes in favour, 10 against and 27 abstentions), showing the deep commitment that the European Parliament has regarding the eradication of sexual harassment and abuse.

After the adoption of this important resolution we have launched a cross-party petition in 6 Member States calling for eight concrete steps to be taken in the fight against sexual harassment.

- 1. Creating a zero-tolerance atmosphere towards violence in any form be it structural, sexual, physical or psychological.
- 2. Accountability of Perpetrator: expansion and full exhaustion of available penalties and sanctions.
- 3. Creation of a central complaints office for reporting harassment cases for all EU-Institutions.
- 4. Ensuring the access to an independent harassment committee in the European Parliament that does not reproduce the internal structures of power by having MEPs on board.
- 5. Victims and allies need whistleblower status and protection: victims and those who are reporting must be utterly assured of their anonymity and discretion with their demands.
- 6. Psychological support for victims: every institution must have a central office with doctors, social workers, and counselors.

- 7. Mandatory training on sexual harassment and mobbing as well as awareness raising of omnipresent and existing patriarchal structures for those who are in positions of power.
- 8. Training and information offer for staff to recognise sexual harassment and to know their rights.

We believe that the 8th of March - the International Women's Day - is an important occasion to re-confirm our commitment and we were pleased to hear that you will officially open the Parliaments event on "Empowering Women And Girls In Media And ICT".

We would therefore like to use the occasion of the International Women's Day to personally hand over the signatures of the petition to you.

Thank you for your attention and we look forward to your response and to deeper collaboration on this topic.

Yours sincerely,

Terry Reintke, Member of the European Parliament

TERM REINTLE

Ernest Urtasun, Member of the European Parliament