## ADVANCED EUROPEAN UNION LAW



### EQUAL TREATMENT IN EU LAW

Jean Monnet Module

# European Union against Gender Inequality Action EUGENIA

Coordinated by

Professor Tania Groppi DISAG University of Siena

20 December 2022

### **BASIC NORMS**

- ARTICLES 2 AND 3(3) TEU VALUES & AIMS
- ARTICLES 8 AND 10 TFEU Promote equality & Combat discrimination
- ARTICLE 21 EU CHARTER ON FUNDAMENTAL
  RIGHTS

- FROM TOOL TO UNIFY EU INTERNAL MARKET TO "CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLE"
- UNIFYING TOOL
  - ARTICLE 119 EEC (NOW ARTICLE 157 TFEU)
     EQUAL PAY
    - Equal Pay
    - Equal Access and working conditions
    - Social Security
  - Consolidated Directive 2006/54 on the implementation of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and occupation

### LEGISLATIVE EVOLUTION

- ARTICLE 153(1)(i) TFEU EQUAL TREATMENT IN THE LABOUR MARKET
- ARTICLE 19 TFEU measures against-discrimination (unanimously) or incentive measures (majority vote)
  - Directive 2000/43 Race
  - Directive 2000/78 Employment for Religion, Age // Sexual Orientation

#### AGENCIES AND SOFT LAW

- EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR GENDER EQUALITY 2007
- EUROPEAN NETWORK OF EQUALITY BODIES 2007
- EU COMMISSION Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025
- EU COMMISSION ANNUAL REPORTS

# EQUAL TREATMENT IN THE EU EU STRATEGY ON GENDER EQUALITY

#### ▶ Objectives

- ending gender-based violence
- challenging gender stereotypes
- closing gender gaps in the labour market
- achieving equal participation across different sectors of the economy
- addressing the gender pay and pension gaps
- closing the gender care gap
- achieving gender balance in decision-making and in politics

#### EU STRATEGY ON GENDER EQUALITY

- ▶ Dual approach
  - gender mainstreaming targeted actions
  - ► Intersectionality
- ► Proposals
  - ► Binding pay transparency measures (4 March 2021)
  - Directive to combat violence against women and domestic violence (8 March 2022)
- ▶ Recent Achievement
  - Directive on gender balance in corporate boards (22 November 2022)

# EQUAL TREATMENT IN THE EU EQUAL PAY

- ► ARTICLE 119 EEC (NOW ARTICLE 157 TFEU)
- ► CASE-LAW
  - ▶ Social Aim (Defrenne-Schroder)
  - ► Definition of "Pay"

    Occupation Social Security v. State Social Security
  - "Advantages for Women" Retirement Age (Barber)
- ► Directive 2006/54 exception of voluntary contributions

# EQUAL TREATMENT IN THE EU GENDER DIRECTIVES

- ► Equal Treatment Directive 2006/54
- ► State Social Security Directive 79/7
- ▶ Pregnancy Directive 92/85
- Access to and Supply of Goods and Services Directive 2004/113
- ► Parental Leave Directive 2010/18
- ► Self-Employed Men and Women Directive 2010/41

- **▶** DIRECTIVE 2006/54
  - ▶ Pay
  - Occupational Social Security
  - **▶** Working Conditions
  - Prohibition of Direct and Indirect Discrimination (Art. 14) (Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Pregnancy and Maternity Leave)
  - Exceptions
    - Occupational Qualification (1983 Male Midwives)
    - ▶ Pregnancy
    - Positive Action (Preferential Treatment for Weaker Persons – 1997 Marschall)

- ► DIRECTIVE 79/7 on Social Security
  - ► EU Residual Powers
  - Working Population
    - Employed and Self Employed
    - ► Illness and Unemployment
    - Seeking employment
  - Retired Population
  - ► Employment-related Social Security
    - ► Invalid Care Allowance YES
    - ► Housing Benefit NO

- ► DIRECTIVE 79/7 on Social Security
  - ► Exceptions for Member States Article 7:
    - ▶ Retirement Age
    - Advantages for having grown up children
    - ► Invalidity Benefits as a Wife
    - ► Increases for long term invalidity to the workers and dependent wives
    - ► Option out of rights under statutory schemes

- ► DIRECTIVE 92/85 on Pregnancy
  - ▶ Based on Article 153 TFEU Health and Safety at Work
  - ▶ Workers:
    - ▶ Pregnant
    - ► Recently Given Birth
    - Breastfeeding
  - ▶ Maternity Leave
  - ► Prohibition to Dismiss Pregnant Women
  - ▶ Minimum Level of Maternity Pay
  - ► Directive 2006/54 prevails

- DIRECTIVE 2004/113 on Access to and Supply of Goods and Services
  - ▶ Not for the Employment Field
  - Insurance and Sex Stereotyping
  - Prohibition of Direct and Indirect Discrimination
  - Objective Justification (single-sex private clubs)
  - ► Temporary Differentiation allowed for Member States (2011 Association belge des Consommateurs Test-Achats)

- ► DIRECTIVE 2010/18 on Parental Leave
  - ▶ 1996 Framework Agreement
  - ► Minimum Level Individual Right Non-Transferable
    - ▶ Birth of the Child
    - ► Force Majeure Family Reasons
  - ► Conditions decided by Member States
  - ► Prohibition of Dismissal
    - ► Indirect Discrimination

(Rules on Dismissal - 2013 Reizneice)

- ► DIRECTIVE 2010/41 on Self-Employed Workers
  - ▶ 1986 Directive
  - ► Legal Basis Article 157(3) TFEU
  - ► Self-employed workers and their spouses
  - ► Duty to Social Protection for spouses Article 7
  - ► Maternity Allowance Article 8

## FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL TREATMENT

- ► ARTICLES 21 AND 23 EU CHARTER
- ► CASE-LAW
  - Fundamental Human Right (Defrenne)
  - Criterion of Legality of EU Acts (Rinke Directives of medicine doctors)
- ▶ Remedies

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