

September 2010: Strategy for equality between women and men. European Commission 2010

- 2015

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Equality between women and men is one of the European Union's founding principles. It goes back to 1957 when the principle of equal pay for equal work became part of the Treaty of Rome.

Much progress has been made in getting more women into the workforce. The EU average is now close to 60 percent, up from 52 percent in 1998. The European Commission is aiming for a rate of 75 percent for men and women by 2020.

It is clear that more women need to be part of the workforce to reach that goal and to get Europe's economic engine moving again. Europe should make better use of women's talents – they are problem solvers and excellent at multi-tasking.

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