



## NEWS REPORT

<b>Date:</b>	16 July 2010
<b>Expert:</b>	Vadim Poleshchuk
<b>Title:</b>	Statutes regarding the Commissioner for Gender Equality and Equal Treatment and his/her Office
<b>Country:</b>	Estonia
<b>Context</b>	
<b>Issue at stake:</b>	Statutes for an Equality body
<b>Ground of discrimination:</b>	All grounds
<b>Source:</b>	Decree of the Government of the Republic no. 71 of 10 June 2010
<b>Field:</b>	All fields

### Content

**Law:** The Commissioner for Gender Equality and Equal Treatment was originally founded as the Gender Equality Commissioner in 2004 (with the adoption of the Law on Gender Equality). From 1 January 2009 the Law on Equal Treatment came into force. The new law changed considerably the mandate of the Equality body as the Commissioner also has to deal with discrimination on grounds other than sex (ethnic and racial origin, colour, religion or belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation). The old statutes of the Gender Equality Commissioner being obsolete from 1 January 2009 it was necessary to adopt new statutes for the Commissioner for Gender Equality and Equal Treatment.

In early 2010 the Ministry started public discussions on the draft statutes of the Commissioner with active involvement of civil society associations. Many recommendations of the latter were incorporated into the final draft of the document.

The statutes clarified the mandate of the body. Most importantly, they provide many details regarding the following obligations of the Commissioner: monitoring the compliance with the requirements of the Law on Equal Treatment and the Law on Gender Equality; analysing the effect of these laws on the vulnerable social groups; promoting gender equality and equal treatment. The statutes provide for an obligation to publish



online an annual report about the Commissioner's and his or her Office activities.

The statutes are valid from 21 June 2010.



**Internet link source and additional information:**

<https://www.riigiteataja.ee/ert/act.jsp?id=13327659> (text on Estonian)