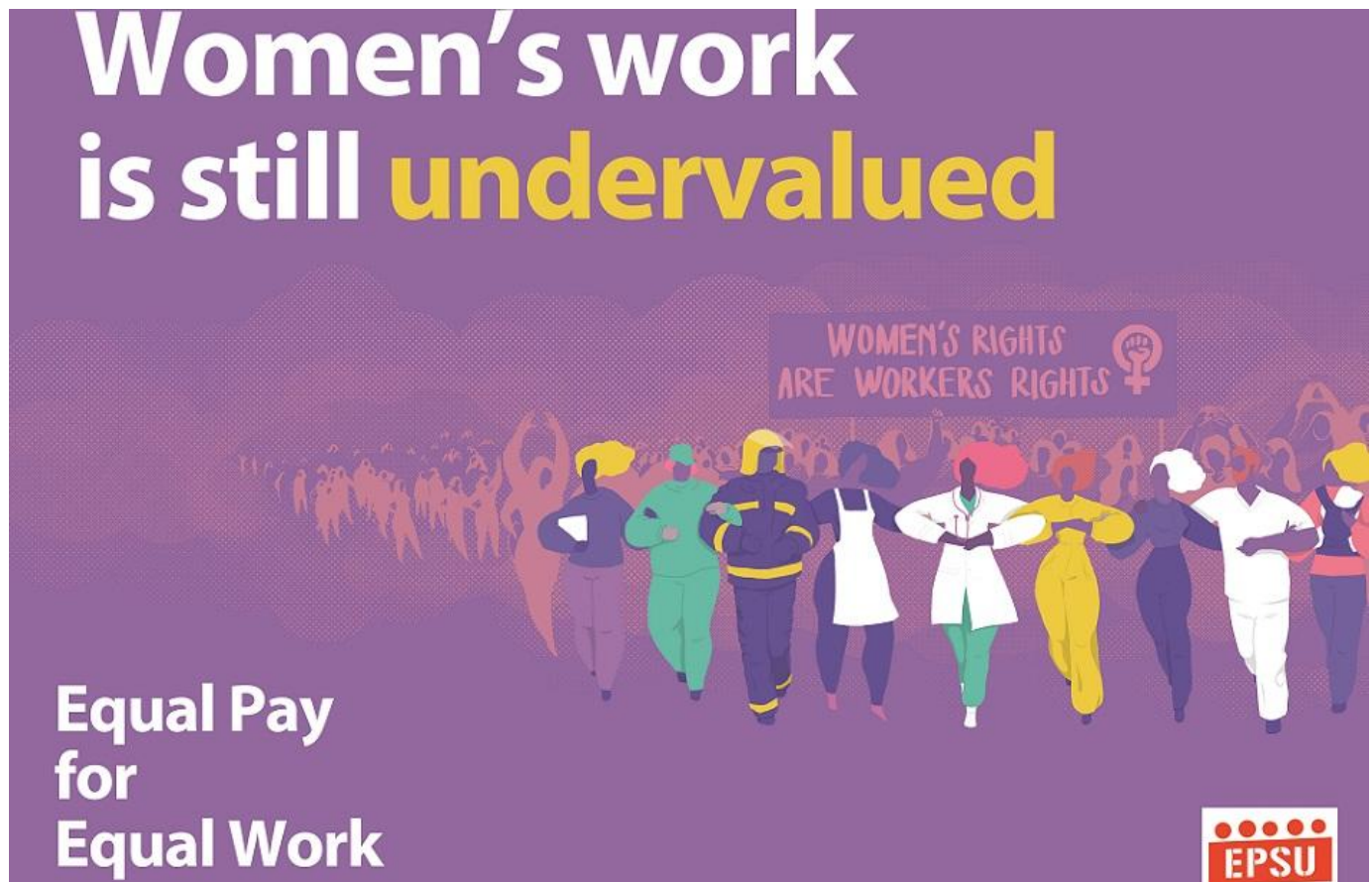


EPSU reaction on Council's gender-equal economies: Legislation remains crucial to close the gender and pensions gap



(12 December 2019) EPSU welcomes the conclusions adopted yesterday by the European Council on gender-equal economies in the EU. They must now be transposed into concrete action at national and EU level.

The wide ranging conclusions come in the run-up to the 25th anniversary of the 1995 Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action. This was a historic blueprint for advancing women's rights. They recognise the progress that has been made over the last 25 years, whilst pointing to areas where there is still much more to be done. Notably, the conclusions acknowledge the unequal impact of austerity on women, and prioritise gender budgeting and gender impact assessments for EU policies, including for the European semester. It is regrettable however, that the Council has

not asked for strong legal initiatives to close the gender and pensions gap. Legal initiatives must be included in the European Commission strategy expected for early 2020.

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