
EU TIMES



Superman or Superwoman?

The labour market on the European continent has been experiencing a phenomenon since its beginnings, which are being brought to attention mainly at the turn of the 20th and 21st centuries. It is a question of unequal employment opportunities.

Where was this inequality born? It is clear that the main factor is the stereotypes created since the beginnings of the formation of the labour market. The women, the bearers of life, were supposed to take care of the family at a time when a man the head of the family, was getting food. Such behavior can be observed in the early patriarchal society, where women have no choice but to educate their children and keep the home fires burning, especially in times when the society needed men for warfare and physically demanding work.

However, today's society no longer needs male warriors and the labour market offers predominantly positions that are not influenced by physiological assumptions. Why, however, are we still finding inequalities between the gender distribution of labour? The fact that women are able to stand up for the work of men is also evidenced by the war periods in the past. For example, during the II. World War, women held all the work of men who had been called to war. However, in the absence of a state of war, job positions are segregated. Women are predominantly employed in fields such as health, education, social services, while the highest concentration of men can be observed in technical fields. However, this problem does not matter. Different salary conditions for

feminized and male disciplines can be identified as a problem. Another problematic area is the concentration of women and men in different levels of employment, mainly in the sense of responsibility and position. Men have greater opportunities and confidence in the labour market and are attributed to qualities that are mainly connected with the management of the subordinates teams.

In the 21st century the society does not require women to only raise children and care for the household, but also counts woman's contribution to family money goals. Due to the pressure on women and the lack of time-flexible positions corresponding to the capabilities of women, the financial gap between women's and men's remuneration continues to increase.

Is it possible to find a balance without violation of the free choice of employees by the employers? In an ideal society, women should be at the level of men in terms of raising children the contribution of finances to the family account, job opportunities. But it cannot be assumed the several adopted European direction or national laws can completely change the direction of development of the labour market. However, we can safely say that there is a need to place emphasis on equal opportunities in education and access to jobs, which can make the gradual decline of gender inequality and provide a somewhat more equitable opportunity for generations to follow and that will eventually lead to a balanced labour market.

QUESTIONS FOR YOU:

What can be done to encourage positive change in relation to the low representation of women in decision-making roles?

Why is gender equality important?

WE ARE NOT INVISIBLE

For many of us, the country where we were born means the whole world. We look at strangers like strangers, we label them as different people, we ask them silly questions, thinking we are not alike at all. It is sad hearing “I am from Estonia. Have you ever heard of that?”, like Estonia does not even exist for the rest of the world.

Actually Estonia’s capital Tallinn is called the “Silicon Valley of Europe” because it has the highest number of startups per head of population. But of course, everybody who wants more opportunities for their startups go to the USA because they have heard there are all the opportunities. If you want to study you choose the university with the most famous name, you go to the UK. Did you know that Switzerland’s ETH is the 10th

university in the world? This is the place where Albert Einstein studied physics.

The language and cultural barriers are still strong, even though we are starting to embrace globalization. The majority of the population who immigrate choose to marry and have a family with people from their own countries because you can make a connection way easier with those who you don’t consider different from you. Expressing emotions through words feels also more natural in your language.

Accepting that we are not as different as we think and giving up on the competition between the countries is the major step we should do for becoming more united globally and accept that we are equal. Think about all the good things that could come out of it!

Competition vs collaboration on an international level

The European Union should unite 28 countries in one big family, who helps and supports each other. However, the wish to be first and to compete with each other is in our blood and this interrupts our good relations.

It is like in a sport competition. You do your best to win, to get the prize, to be followed and admired. To be the strongest, no matter of the consequences for the others. That is why so many Europeans do not support the European Union and how it is working. I see their points and I must agree that a change should happen.

In order to take advantage of the opportunities, which this union can give us, we should work together, be tolerant, patient and help each other.

As a youth worker involved in a lot of EU activities, connected to collaboration between countries, I should say that the first step should be making a target group and our should definitely be the youth. This is the key for solving the problem.

So if you are a young person, motivated to learn, you should experience Erasmus+ in order to learn how to collaborate with people from other countries, how to work in team and after this bring the knowledge to their homeland so that a change can be possible. Be active and believe in the future of EU!



Dear Mr. President,

“So, who you want to be when you grow up?” The most basic question and hardest to answer at the same time. If you ask a child, who he or she wants to become, there is a high chance, that the answer will be: “President of the United states, of course!” President as the highest formal function of democratic state. The icon. It takes a special kind of person, someone tough, smart, and driven, just to run for the job. It takes still more talent and character to hold up under the pressures of life as a president. Person with vision for our future, leader, good speaker, should be decent, moral, should know other languages....

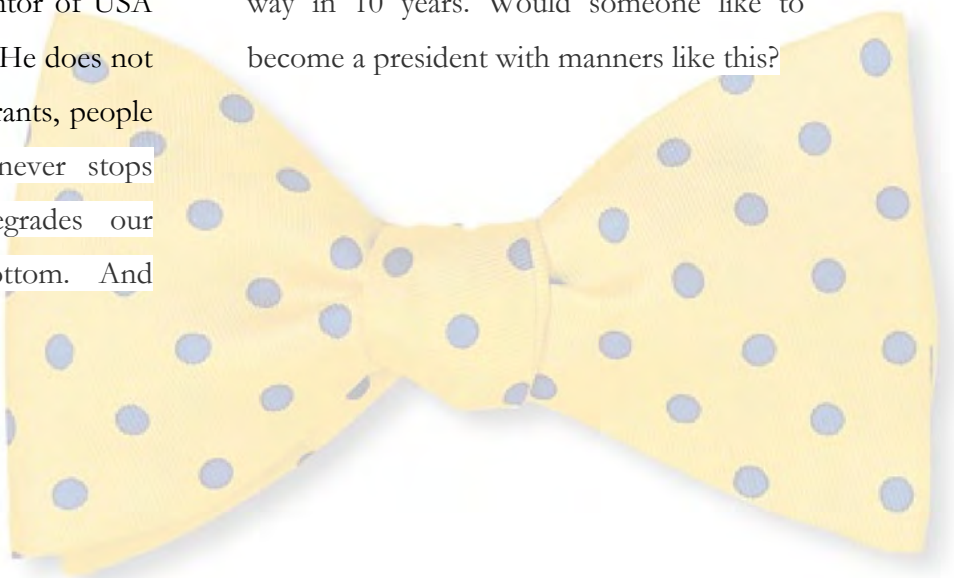
But what happened to our presidents nowadays? The highest representor of USA behaves in totally different way. He does not show respect to women, immigrants, people from Spain or Mexico. He never stops behaving in a way that degrades our humanity. He never finds a bottom. And that's not OK.

President should unite the society, not to tear it apart. In Czech Republic is pretty much the same situation. Smoking, drinking and insulting other social group (“All vegetarians should die” – yes, this was said by president of Czech rep.) is usual behaviour.

However, the saddest part is that those presidents were elected by citizens. Directly. This is the alarming that people voluntarily vote for them.

We can spot the changing morals in our society. Even the highest represents do not behave in proper way.

So, let's see if children responded it the same way in 10 years. Would someone like to become a president with manners like this?



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- _____ - job agency in EU
- _____, _____ and _____ represents 12 stars on the flag.
- _____ - capital of Bulgaria.
- _____ - capital of Romania
- _____ - capital of Czech Republic

_____ is a key to success

