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## PRESS RELEASE

## EWLA celebrates Gender Equality as a good reason for the EU: #60+1 good reasons for the EU



As part of last year's celebrations to mark the 6oth anniversary of the Treaties of Rome, the European Commission published a remarkable compilation of "6o good reasons for the EU". Those 6o good reasons include everything from the EU being the world's most popular holiday destination to positive achievements like abolishing roaming charges.

However, quite astonishingly, the EU's leading role in enhancing Gender Equality seemingly did not warrant a mention. Perhaps it seemed too self-evident? Today, 61 years after signing the Treaty of Rome, EWLA sets the record straight by adding the 61st good reason for the EU: the EU is one of the most outstanding and effective institutional defenders of Gender Equality.

EWLA's President Katharina Miller stated: "EWLA has always been a fervent defender of equality between men and women. 61 years after the signing of the Treaties of Rome, we strongly believe that the evolving EU legislation,

case law and continuing interpretation of the Treaties throughout the years have protected and enhanced the crucial principle of Gender Equality to a remarkable extent. This should not be forgotten on a date like the 8<sup>th</sup> of March – International Women's Day."

The European Women Lawyers Association (EWLA) is registered in Belgium as an international non-governmental, non-profit, association (Association Internationale Sans But Lucratif). It is a federation of national women lawyers associations from amongst the European Union countries and those of EFTA countries. Members of EWLA are also individual women lawyers and academics from these countries. EWLA pursues the co-operation of European women lawyers, in order to combine their specific expertise in monitoring law and politics seen from the angle of fundamental rights, and in particular gender equality.



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