

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-003574/25
to the Commission
Carolina Morace (The Left), Pasquale Tridico (The Left), Danilo Della Valle (The Left)
(17 September 2025)**

Subject: Gender discrimination in access to professional training courses organised by the Italian Football Federation (FIGC)

Directive 2006/54/EC and Articles 21 and 23 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union provide for equal treatment of women and men in access to employment and vocational training.

However, reports indicate that female athletes applying for FIGC professional coaching courses are given a lower score than male candidates who have the same sporting qualifications, a state of affairs which effectively hampers women's access to education and training.

In the light of the above:

1. Is the Commission aware of this practice, which is incompatible with EU law — specifically Directive 2006/54/EC and Articles 21 and 23 of the Charter?
2. Will it engage with the competent Italian authorities with a view to ensuring that all selection procedures for vocational training fully adhere to the principle of non-gender discrimination and employ gender-neutral selection criteria?
3. What tools will the Commission put in place to monitor and sanction discriminatory practices in access to training and employment in the Member States?

Submitted: 17.9.2025

**Answer given by Ms Lahbib on behalf of the European Commission
(6 January 2026)**

The Commission reaffirms gender equality as a priority, as highlighted in the Roadmap for Women's Rights⁽¹⁾ and the commitment to adopting a new Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030.

This includes ensuring equal opportunities and access to vocational training as well as upskilling and reskilling, in line with the Roadmap for Women's Rights.

The upcoming Gender Equality Strategy will build on the principles and objectives outlined in the Declaration for a gender-equal society annexed to the Roadmap⁽²⁾.

Member States have a primary responsibility to monitor the application of the relevant legal provisions and to take the necessary steps for enforcement. In its role as guardian of the Treaties, the Commission monitors the situation and may decide to take appropriate action.

Article 27 of the Italian National Code of Equal Opportunities between Women and Men (Decree No 198/2006) establishes the prohibition of discrimination on access to and content of vocational training, thus transposing Article 14 of Directive 2006/54/EC.

Under Article 17 of the Treaty of the European Union, the Commission will continue monitoring the correct transposition and implementation of Directive 2006/54/EC by Italy. The Commission aims to swiftly follow up on systemic issues involving the application of EU law in EU countries.

⁽¹⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/0c3fe55d-9e4f-4377-9d14-93d03398b434_en.

⁽²⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/document/6342a1c7-acb4-4ed5-827a-14e67926afad_en.