

# Women of Europe

---

Brussels, 15 January/15 March 1985  
n° 39 (bi-monthly)

A PEOPLE'S EUROPE (AND WOMEN ARE PEOPLE TOO)

---

The Heads of State and Government of the ten European Community countries have set up a special committee of their personal representatives. Its purpose: to strengthen a "People's Europe".

And what if women were to air their views too?

Without being over-concerned with treaties, diplomats and experts what can be done (by you and me, by us and them) to promote a People's Europe for both men and women?

That wellbeing and the practical solidarity we should all like to see, does it already exist? What is your own experience? What steps have you taken - or what steps would you like to take - to make this future community of ours a reality?

You know our address.

Women of Europe

X/85/85-En

This bulletin is published by the



**COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

Directorate-General Information

Information for Women's organisations and press

Rue de la Loi 200

B-1049 — Brussels — Tel. 2351111

## IN THIS ISSUE

Contents	p. 2
The changing European Community - editorial	3
Ministers, women and work	4
Lomé III and women	4
18 months in Japan - why not you?	5
Women and research	5
The image of women in the educational environment	6
Women at the European University Institute	6
European Parliament	7
Committee on Women's Rights	9
At the Court of Justice of the European Communities	9
Rendez-vous in Nairobi	10
Country to country:	
Facts, institutions, laws and militant activities	11
Research, Meetings and Books	30

Editorial staff: J.A. Pirlot

Editor: **Fausta Deshormes La Valle**  
 Women's Information Service  
 Directorate General for Information  
 Commission of the European Communities  
 200 Rue de la Loi  
1049 Brussels

Editorial work on this issue of "Women of Europe" was completed on 20 March 1985

T H E   C H A N G I N G  
E U R O P E A N   C O M M U N I T Y

*As an observer of what is happening today, "Women of Europe" is particularly well placed. From the information that floods into its editorial office we often notice somewhat unexpected trends and suddenly realise how greatly the concerns expressed by women in individual European Community countries converge.*

*Early this spring, for example, we noted a surprising number of news items on the place of women in the scientific world. Computers and new technology have sparked off thought and action whose implications spread far wider than any dreamed of by academics and researchers.*

*Step by step, cautiously but resolutely, women have been taking on a much more far-reaching role in their society. They have been speaking up in discussions on major issues and accepting their share of responsibility.*

*We are about to embark on a vital debate as to the economic future of Europe. Should we try to ride out the economic storm, or should we stand up and fight back? And if we decide to fight back, will all the effort be really worth the while?*

*It would be both surprising and disappointing if women had nothing to say on the subject.*

*Women of Europe*

**MINISTERS, WOMEN AND WORK**  
=====

An informal meeting of ministers with responsibility for women's status took place in Rome on 7 March on the invitation and under the chairmanship of Mr De Michelis, Italian Minister of Employment. The discussions centred on three proposed directives that the European Commission had put on the desk of the Council of Ministers of the European Community: on part-time work; on parental leave; and on equal treatment for self-employed men and women, including those working in agriculture, and the protection of motherhood.

Winding up the meeting, Mr De Michelis said he would do his best to ensure that the Council could adopt at least one of the three directives before the end of June. Although there was no insuperable obstacle in Italy's case, he warned that other Community countries might have great difficulties to overcome. Denmark, for instance, had already announced its opposition to the three directives because of questions of legal competence, and the United Kingdom had also expressed reservations.

Yvette Roudy, the French Minister for Women's Rights, regretted the fact that it was even harder today to bring in measures promoting the interests of women than in the 1970s because of the economic crisis. She stressed how important it is for women to look to new technologies, implying a different choice of direction in their studies and a different type of basic and specialist job training.

Before the meeting, Mr De Michelis had received a delegation from the "Women's Committee" of the European Trade Union Confederation, which handed him the "ETUC declaration on women's employment". An active policy in favour of women, said the women unionists, should include the launching of appropriate vocational training and job creation programmes and the elimination of wage, tax and social discrimination. The ETUC Committee also asked for "positive action" to be applied under the national law of each European Community state.

**LOME III AND WOMEN**  
=====

The new convention signed by the European Community and the African, Caribbean and Pacific States is the third of its kind (the reason for its title, Lomé III), but only the first in the series to mention women explicitly. The wording of Article 123 runs: 1. Cooperation will sustain the efforts of ACP States to recognize the value of women's work, improve their living conditions, broaden their role and advance their status in the process of production and development; 2. Special attention will be paid to giving women access to all aspects of training, more sophisticated technologies, credit and cooperative organizations as well as to appropriate technologies which will relieve them of some of the burden of their tasks.

One example will suffice to illustrate the problem. In Mali, under a "rice" scheme being funded by the European Community, a woman cannot obtain credit for the purchase of agricultural equipment on her own account. She can borrow only if her husband applies for her and if he himself grows cotton. Cotton-growing, however, places an extra burden of work on the woman as she has traditionally been responsible for sowing, hoeing and cotton-picking. If she cannot borrow, a woman has to go on using a manual implement - a "daba" - and cannot afford to buy fertilizers, which means in turn that she cannot improve her productivity.

The Lomé III Convention is being brought into force at the end of the United Nations Decade for Women, and the European Community bears part of the responsibility for what the future will bring.

## EIGHTEEN MONTHS IN JAPAN - WHY NOT YOU?

=====

The Commission of the European Communities has set up a training programme that is unique of its kind: 18 months in Japan, consisting of a 12 months' full-time course in the Japanese language and 6 months' attachment full-time to a Japanese company.

A hundred young executives have already benefited from the first four programmes; 34 more arrived in Tokyo early in February and 40 more places are to be made available under a programme due to begin in February 1986. As of this date, only a dozen women have taken part in this quite exceptional scheme. Why not you?

The terms are advantageous: successful applicants will be paid a monthly allowance and the travel costs will be paid by the Commission, which also foots the bill for the language classes and incidentals. An installation allowance is paid on arrival in Japan and there is a relocation allowance at the end of the programme.

The basic requirements are a university degree or the equivalent and two years' experience in business or industry, preferably in an international context. A knowledge of marketing or company development has proved particularly useful in that it has helped trainees to take full advantage of the training opportunities, but many young executives who have trained in technical or business subjects have found the experience to be of great value in promoting their firm's business in Japan.

Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co has been asked to short-list applicants, both men or women. The firm has offices in every capital in the Community except Italy, where its office is in Milan, and Germany, where its office is in Frankfurt. The head office in the Hague can be contacted via its telex (n° 32455).

### WOMEN AND RESEARCH

Supplement n° 18 is entitled "Women and Research". In response to a call from European Parliament, one that has been echoed by many women, this is the first survey of research and studies pertaining specifically to women in universities and research institutes in the ten European Community countries.

Being a first approach to the subject it is by necessity selective and non-comprehensive. Like every "first", it has its limits and its faults. For example, the authors have - regrettably - restricted themselves to institutional bodies, although wherever possible they give the addresses of the research and information centres, libraries and discussion groups that have come into being as a result of women's own initiative.

Written by Martine El Mehalawi-Nouet, Nathalie Pauner (of Agence Femmes Information) and Patricia Niedzwecki, this survey (which is available in English) gives an idea of the impressive energy and diversity of the research being done by and on women. It should promote the exchange of ideas, circulation of information, pooling of thoughts and creation of a network at Community level - all of which constitute the very raison d'être of "Women of Europe".

### THE IMAGE OF WOMEN IN THE EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

Jeannine Terneu-Evrard and Brigitte Evrard have been researching the image of women as it is projected in education today, especially in textbooks, and as it should be conveyed if it is to promote equal opportunities for girls.

The survey, intended to provide food for thought within the European Commission, has the merit of not trying to conceal the complexity of the issue. The authors quote Yvette Roudy's observation, "what we need are new school books", but go on to comment "nothing fundamental has changed as yet, as the new school books prove".

Placing pressure on publishers is helpful. One American publisher has admitted that "what makes us move in the United States is the compilation of black lists of sexist and racist books". Even so, a good deal more thought on the content of new books is needed. It is not enough to write "Daddy is doing the cooking". Should not the high proportion of working mothers be reflected in textbooks? Should this percentage be made apparent in each individual book or should it be obvious from the books used in the classroom as a whole? To what extent should the realities be presented to children, and which realities should be shown? Life as seen by teachers or by workers or by employers? Life as it is today or as it will be tomorrow?

Cautiously and tentatively, many practical solutions are suggested. Including this suggestion - again from the US - which should make us think as well as smile: "domestic economy" lessons should be rechristened "the art of living well", or "the single person's ABC". The book is on sale at the Office of Official Publications of the Communities, 1985 Luxembourg.

### WOMEN AT THE EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE

On a hill overlooking Florence, at Badia Fiesolana di San Domenico, the European University Institute is attended by students and researchers. The proportions of men and women are of interest: 27 to 20 respectively in academic year 1976-77; 24 to 17 in 1981-82; 43 to 20 in 1982-83; and 43 to 21 in 1983-84.

The whole of the teaching staff has been male ever since 1976 (35 in academic year 1983-84), with the sole exception of Gigliola Margiotta Broglio, who has been an assistant professor since 1979 and has now become a full-time associate professor.

It is hardly surprising that a "women's group" was set up in autumn 1983 by a few women students and researchers. Their aim was to pool their thoughts on women's studies, a subject not included in the Institute curriculum. Its members also wanted to discuss their own status as women and students in a predominantly male environment.

Its first step was to arrange a cycle of interdisciplinary seminars on the theme of "women and social sciences" and to reprint the papers in the journal "Good News", brought out to coincide with Women's Day on 8 March.

A second cycle is to be held this year, retaining the same interdisciplinary character. Further details can be obtained from Susan Baker, Gloria Bartoletti or Maureen Cain.

Useful address: Istituto Universitario Europeo  
Via della Badia dei Roccettini  
50016 San Domenico di Fiesole, Florence

E U R O P E A N P A R L I A M E N T
-------------------------------------

January Session The new members of the European Commission took office early in January 1985 and Parliament asked the incoming President, Jacques Delors, to outline the plan of action for his four year mandate. Mr. Delors' address was followed by a debate and a vote - not quite on a par with a vote of confidence as given by a national parliament to its government, but it has an important symbolic value all the same.

Some MEPs complained that no specific measures had been mentioned in this guideline speech, but President Delors announced that a working programme for 1985 would be presented to Parliament in March.

Mr Delors outlined the "means" as well as the "ends" in every domain of Community life, from agriculture to monetary policy and environment. Belgian Socialist Raymonde Dury pointed out that no mention had been made of policy in favour of women: the speech had touched on measures to promote equality but had not gone into any detail. Mr Delors will certainly be questioned on the subject during the March debate on the 1985 working programme.

Parliament welcomed Mr Delors's statements on a dialogue between institutions, particularly in the light of the changes which, Parliament hopes, will prevent the Council of Minister from ignoring proposals put forward by the Commission.

In Mr Delors the MEPs noted a twofold concern: to give Europe credibility in the eyes of its own citizens and to the outside world, and to reinforce its unity. In the economic field, he looks for a genuine effort to achieve "coherence" (rather than "convergence", the term usually used). In matters of principle, too, he hopes to achieve this by progress towards institutional reform. Mr Delors expressed his views clearly ("we should go beyond the Treaty of Rome") but cautiously (in the hope that we shall avoid the "dogmatic opposition" that provides a pretext for doing nothing).

Encouraging words for Parliament were proffered from another source during the session. Mr Andreotti, Italian foreign minister and President of the Council of Ministers for the first half of 1985, reiterated his resolve to work for the success of his institutional initiative and clear up the budget differences between himself and the Council of Ministers. He spoke at length of Europe's role towards the rest of the world, in security and other matters. He trusted that Europe would no longer be silent in the dialogue on disarmament between the world powers and that it would take the initiative in the Middle East.

During an emergency debate on terrorism, Parliament denounced international terrorism and called on Member States to take joint action against such alliances. Certain MEPs abstained from voting, including the Rainbow group which did not want to encourage the creation of a "European legal state".

February Session At a formal session, European Parliament was visited by Israeli President Chaim Herzog, following Egyptian President Sadat and King Hussein of Jordan.

Mr Herzog pointed to European Parliament as an example to the rest of the world in the way that peace has been brought to Europe among countries formerly at war. He expressed the hope that a similar dialogue with his Arab counterparts might some day be set up in a comparable forum.

Even so, the prospects today as described by Mr Herzog are not very encouraging. Although he paid homage to the vision displayed by President Sadat, he was highly critical of the other Arab countries which has been so unreceptive to offers of peace and which had done nothing to help the Palestinian people find a homeland.

Mr Herzog appealed to the Community to take due account of Israel's economic problems, since the EEC is its largest export market.

Following the murder of a general in France and an industrialist in Germany, European Parliament held another debate on terrorism. Francesco Forte, Italian Minister for European Affairs, reported on decisions that had been reached in Rome only the previous day at the "political cooperation" meeting of foreign ministers. The Ten are to step up their cooperation to combat terrorism, without detracting from the freedom of movement of Community citizens. Lord Cockfield, European Commissioner, quoted the statement issued after the summit meeting of industrial nations in London in 1984 and the agreement between France and Germany on an operations group to combat terrorism, expressing the hope that it would be followed by many other agreements of this kind.

During the same session, Parliament approved a resolution calling for a celebration on 8 May, the anniversary of V-E Day that marked the end of the second world war in Europe. It expressed its hope that the European Community would be only the first step towards unification of the European continent (the Communists voted against the resolution, as did some of the Socialists). Discussions became very lively when it was announced that President Reagan would be visiting Parliament on 8 May.

The scheduling of an informal meeting of ministers responsible for women's status to mark International Women's Day sparked off another debate. A Parliamentary inter-group statement (signed by Ien van den Heuvel for the Socialists, Rika de Backer for the European People's Party, Maria Lisa Cinciari-Rodano for the Communists, Robert Battersby for the European Democrats and Christian de la Malène for the European Democratic Alliance) welcomed the meeting, although it also voiced some criticisms and demands.

For example, it called for: replacement of the informal meeting by annual sessions of the Council of Ministers; the implementation and application of existing directives, including the directive on the principle of equal treatment for men and women in social security; immediate steps by the Council of Ministers on the procedure for adopting proposed directives on parental leave and leave for family reasons, equal treatment for self-employed men and women, including those working in agriculture, and equal treatment for men and women in occupational social security schemes.

Parliament also urged that: work be launched on a new Community Programme of Action on the promotion of equal opportunities for women; checks be made on the application of the 1982-85 Programme of Action; the recently adopted positive Programme of Action for women be brought into effect (backed, of course, by legislation to introduce positive action); and that proposals be made in the field of taxation and vocational training. International Youth Year might well provide an opportunity for ad hoc schemes to counteract unemployment among girls.



**COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS**

The Parliamentary Committee on Women's Rights has been pressing on with its work under the chairmanship of Marlene Lenz (Germany, European People's Party). At a meeting held in Brussels in late January, the Committee considered guidelines for the administration of the European Social Fund. In the course of a discussion following a statement made by Mr Bachy on behalf of the Parliamentary Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, the Committee members returned to the subject of imbalance in the management of the Fund and how it works against the interests of women (only a third of the projects supported relate to women). They also deplored the lack of information available and the administrative complexities which serve to discourage the submission of schemes by women.

Referring to the Memorandum drawn up by the Commission on equal treatment between men and women in tax matters, the Committee decided to appoint a rapporteur for this issue, one in which Parliament has an essential role to play. British MEP Margaret Daly (European Democrats) was given this responsibility, while the Dutch Socialist, Ien van den Heuvel, was asked to draw up an "own-initiative report" on violence against women.

At a meeting held in late February, the Committee exchanged views with Mr Conti-Persini, Italian Secretary of State, acting on behalf of the President of the Council of Ministers. He reiterated his intention that the Council's agenda for June should include the adoption of the three directives now on the Council's desk. Many questions were raised by Committee members, and the meeting was wound up by the chairman, Marlene Lenz, saying that women may be impatient but they can also be relied on to persevere.

It was the first time that the Committee had met Alois Pfeiffer, Commissioner responsible for employment and social affairs. He said that his first visit to the Committee was only the start of what he hoped would be close cooperation with European Parliament. There is consensus within the Commission, he declared, on treating equal opportunities as one of the priorities.

In the broad-ranging discussion that followed, the MEPs briefed the Commissioner about their concerns and he in turn gave details of the Commission's efforts. For example, he said that there was to be a meeting with the media early in summer to take a joint look at changing attitudes.

The Committee then continued with its own work, which included the report on violence against women and giving its view on guidelines for the European Social Fund.

**THE COURT OF JUSTICE**

Collective agreements not enough ----- Denmark has lost a case before the Court of Justice of the European Communities because it has not aligned its law with the EEC directive establishing the principle of equal pay for men and women workers. The case had been referred to the Court of Justice by the Commission. In its defence, the Danish Government pointed out that equal pay is achieved by collective agreement rather than law. "What about the people who work in small firms and have no such collective agreement?" asked the Court. The law must be changed and it must clearly state that there will be equal pay "for work of equal value".

<b>RENDEZ-VOUS    IN    NAIROBI</b>
-------------------------------------

A debate has been held in the Folketing (Danish Parliament) on the International Decade for Women and the forthcoming Nairobi conference.

Eight of the parties represented in the Folketing had called for a debate on the preparations taking place in Denmark for the UN conference to be held in Nairobi and follow-up action on Denmark's own plan for the Decade since 1980.

The Minister of State opened by saying that women had made their voices heard more clearly during the Decade, and that the Government was in favour of pressing on with UN efforts to improve women's lot. He pointed out that Denmark had ratified the agreement on ending discrimination against women.

In the debate that followed, it became apparent that the parties were more or less unanimous as to the need to do more for women in developing countries, the vital importance of the Nairobi conference, including Forum '85, the desirability of providing more information in Denmark and the fact that progress towards greater equality should not stop after the Nairobi conferences marking the end of the UN Decade for Women.

The debate closed with a resolution calling on the Government to urge the United Nations to continue with its work at international, regional and national level to ensure that women's status does on improving after 1985. Women in the third world should be offered opportunities for training, work and involvement in the decision-making process. Finally, it was decided that Denmark should draw up a national plan of action to give women equal opportunities in every field.

Concern in Belgium: the convention on eliminating discrimination against women may not be adopted before the Nairobi meeting. The problem is the complexity of the Belgian constitutional system: a convention of this kind has to be approved not only by the national Parliament but also by the regional assemblies.

Why not a second decade? Nationale Vrouwenraad (Dutch-speaking branch of the National Belgian Women's Council) may be asking the Belgian Government to submit an official request to the United Nations.

Statistics making a distinction between men and women in the working world are called for by the National Luxembourg Women's Council. In the absence of those statistics, it is impossible to see how the Grand Duchy compares with other countries.

800 women's associations have responded to the appeal by Yvette Roudy, French Minister for Women's Rights: 2,400 questionnaires have already been returned to the Ministry telling it about the expectations of women's groups in matters of employment, education and health. The review of the decade that France is to present in Nairobi will to a great extent draw on these replies.

Women helping women in Kenya: the German Women's Council - Deutsche Frauenrat - has asked its members to make donations to its special account 119 39 94/02 with the Deutsche Bank. The amount collected will be passed on to women in Kenya. Another of the Council's schemes is to organize a working party on "older women" in Nairobi, to focus on the problem as it arises in the third world.

COUNTRY TO COUNTRY:FACTS, INSTITUTIONS AND LAWSAND MILITANT ACTIVITIES

B E L G I U M
---------------

**Dr Lise Thiry, voted "Woman of the Year"**, is a professor of microbiology at Brussels Free University and department head at the Pasteur Institute. With her team, she helped to isolate the AIDS virus and develop a method of screening for the infection. Founded by the French-speaking branch of the National Belgian Women's Council, the award was given by a jury of about 40 journalists from a list of 22 nominees.

Useful address: Conseil National des Femmes Belges (branche francophone)  
1a, Place Quételet. 1030 Brussels

**The Zaire Embassy in Brussels** has been headed by Ekyla Liyonda since January. A 36-year-old legal expert, she was formerly the Minister for Women's Status in her own country. Her post as ambassador to Belgium is particularly important for economic as well as political and historical reasons.

**Voting is compulsory in Belgium**, and should remain so: this is the gist of a joint release signed by Lily Boeykens and Huberte Hanquet, presidents of Nationale Vrouwenraad and its French-speaking counterpart, Conseil National des Femmes Belges respectively (National Belgian Women's Council). If voting were to be optional, the risk is that only the better informed and more highly motivated women would exercise this civic right, point out the two presidents.

Useful addresses N.V.R. Middaglijstraat 8, 1030 Brussels  
CNFB, 1a, Place Quételet. 1030 Brussels

**At the Sixth International Festival of Women's Films** in Brussels early in March, 28 full-length films were shown. The highlight of the festival, attended by 28 women film-makers and actresses from 12 countries, was the discovery of a new generation of women directors in France.

Useful address: Cinélibre / La Femme dans le cinéma  
10, rue des Palais. 1030 Brussels

**420 Belgian Francs a day** - about £7 - is the value of a wife and mother of two, according to a judgment by the Antwerp Court of Appeal awarding a husband compensation following the death of his young wife in a road accident. "Thuiswerkende Ouder" (the homebound parents' association) was pleased at the court's acknowledgement of a housewife's financial value, but pointed out that an insurance company pays 450 francs a day compensation for a car being off the road.

**Vie Féminine**, a Christian movement for cultural and social action, has asked us to point out that the booklet on "my pregnancy day to day" [Women of Europe n° 37] was produced jointly with GERM (Groupe d'Etude pour une Réforme de la Médecine - medical reform study group). It follows "Moi et la Maternité" ("maternity and me"), a booklet citing many personal stories and raising issues of great importance to the whole of the medical profession.

Useful address: Vie Féminine, 111, rue de la Poste 1030 Brussels

**In the Socialist Party** (French-speaking branch), men are moving up to make more room for women. It has been decided that at least 20% of the membership of all bodies, from grassroots to the top, should be women. At the latest Socialist congress, Viviane Jacobs was nominated permanent delegate and Raymonde Dury as chairman of the Interfederal Committee of Socialist Women.

Useful address: Commission Interfédérale des Femmes Socialistes  
13, boulevard de l'Empereur. 1000 Brussels

**The refusal of an invitation to dinner** by Marijke van Hemeldonck, an MEP, has been reprinted by the feminist magazine, Lilith. The organizers of a gala event in honour of Benelux sent out an invitation ending with the words "a Benelux dinner - with ladies". With ladies? Does this mean that Colette Flesch, the then Luxembourg Foreign Minister, was merely tolerated in a men's club? Would each male guest be decked out with a lady like a pair of cufflinks? Are ladies something one just takes for granted, like parsley on new potatoes? Firmly but with a smile, Marijke van Hemeldonck declined the invitation.

Useful address: Lilith, c/o Josée Roymans, Huidevetterskaii 37, 9000 Ghent

**Women and new technology** is the topical issue in Belgium today, as it is in the rest of the European Community.

It was the chosen theme of a seminar arranged by the Brussels Free University's Institute of Sociology, in liaison with the Centre Européen pour Bruxelles and with the support of the Commission of the European Communities.

The questions raised were fundamental: what role do women play in the introduction of computer technology? Where do they come in? What strategies do we need to achieve equal opportunities for men and women when introducing new technology? Employers, unionists, sociologists and educators enriched the debate by contributing the benefit of their experience.

In winding up the seminar, MEP Raymonde Dury said that technical progress could bring about social progress, but only if we do not allow ourselves to be overawed by the scale of change now taking place. To a great extent, companies can control internal change, since they control their machines and how they are used. The real problem lies not in machines but in the rigid way work is organized. Should we not have a sort of "model collective labour agreement" at European level? Even so, women cannot be equal unless specific account is taken of them as a target group when planning for training in the new technologies. Undoubtedly the bridge to be crossed is both psychological and technical.

Useful address: Institut de Sociologie, 44 avenue Jeanne, 1030 Brussels

**Vocational guidance and training in computer technology for women under 25** is the subject of a plan of action launched by Nationale Vrouwenraad (National Women's Council), which has applied for a grant from the European Social Fund. Through the "women's mafia in the ministries" (to use NVR's own words), support has been obtained from the Belgian Government, but an application for financial aid is still being considered by the Flemish regional government.

Useful address: Nationale Vrouwenraad - Nederlandstalige Afdeling  
8, Middaglijstraat, 1030 Brussels

**For women who are "excluded" from the computer world**, "Femmes Prévoyantes Socialistes" has arranged a 48-hour course, free of charge, running from November 1984 to May 1985. The opportunity to learn and think has been taken up by 400 women, divided into fourteen groups.

The reasoning was that the ability to use a micro may be an important point in a job applicant's favour. Today, however, only 10% of those at courses leading to careers in computers and electronics are girls. On teaching staffs, only 25% of teachers going to retraining sessions are women, although they account for 67% of the teaching body in primary education and 55% in secondary education. In the same way, they make up only 5% of the buffs in computer clubs.

Useful address: Femmes Prévoyantes Socialistes, 32 rue St. Jean, 1000 Brussels