



Internet addresses:

Gender Equality Unit:

www.stm.fi/tasa-arvo/tasa-arvoyksikko

Office of the Ombudsman for Equality:

www.tasa-arvo.fi

Council for Gender Equality:

www.tane.fi

Equality Board:

www.stm.fi/tasa-arvo/tasa-arvolautakunta

Act on Equality between Women and Men:

[www.finlex.fi/en/legislation \(Nr 609/1986\)](http://www.finlex.fi/en/legislation/Nr_609/1986)

Website for women's studies and gender

equality: www.minna.fi

Promoting gender equality

in Finland

GENDER EQUALITY UNIT
OMBUDSMAN FOR EQUALITY
EQUALITY BOARD
COUNCIL FOR GENDER EQUALITY

■ MINISTRY OF
SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND HEALTH

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GENDER EQUALITY IN FINLAND

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health has four separate bodies working for the promotion of gender equality: the Gender Equality Unit, the Ombudsman for Equality, the Council for Gender Equality and the Equality Board.

The duties of **the Gender Equality Unit** include

- drafting and developing the Government's gender equality policy in collaboration with other ministries
- tasks related to the mainstreaming of gender equality
- preparation of national legislation
- tasks related to the EU's gender equality legislation and policy as well as international affairs

Gender Equality Unit

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The Ombudsman for Equality operates in conjunction with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health as an independent authority supervising the implementation of the Act on Equality between Women and Men and attending to the tasks assigned to the Ombudsman by law.

The Ombudsman for Equality

- supervises compliance with the Act on Equality between Women and Men, in

- particular the prohibitions on discrimination and discriminatory job advertising
- promotes the purpose of the Act by means of initiatives, advice and counselling
- gives information about the Equality Act and its application
- monitors the implementation of equality between women and men in different sectors of society

The Ombudsman for Equality can, on request, give guidance and advice to persons suspecting discrimination. The Ombudsman can also give guidance regarding equality planning and application of the quota provision.

Office of the Ombudsman for Equality

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Equality Board

The Ombudsman for Equality or the central labour market organisations can bring matters concerning violation of the Equality Act before the Equality Board. The Board can prohibit continuation or recurrence of activity violating the Act. The Board can also issue opinions to the court of justice.

Equality Board/Gender Equality Unit

Mailing address: P.O. Box 33, 00023
GOVERNMENT, Finland
www.stm.fi/tasa-arvo/tasa-arvolautakunta/tasa-arvolautakunta

The Council for Gender Equality (TANE) was established in 1972 as a permanent advisory council in the state administration. It has 13 members that are appointed by the Council of State for the term of a parliament according to the relative strength of political parties in the parliament. Representatives of the National Council of Women in Finland and the Coalition of Finnish Women's Associations for Joint Action (NYTKIS) take part in the Council's work as expert members.

The Council for Gender Equality

- monitors and promotes the implementation of equality between women and men in society
- prepares initiatives and issues opinions on topical gender equality questions
- issues opinions in order to develop the legislation on equality and other measures
- promotes co-operation among authorities, the social partners, women's and men's associations and other organisations
- promotes gender equality research and utilisation of its results
- follows international developments in the field of gender equality

The Council has established the Subcommittees on Gender and Power and Men and Gender Equality to support its work in 2007–2011.

Council for Gender Equality

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