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For detailed information on publications  
please visit the project website:

<http://genderace.ulb.ac.be>

# GENDERACE

The use of racial  
anti-discrimination laws  
Gender and citizenship in a  
multicultural context

An EC 7th Framework Programme  
Research Project  
2008-2010



## OBJECTIVES

Focusing specifically on discrimination related to 'race', ethnic origin and gender, the project's objectives are:

- ☒ To broaden understanding of the impact of gender on the experience of racial/ethnic discrimination;
- ☒ To improve the knowledge of the combined effects of racial/ethnic and gender discrimination in order to reveal the various forms of specific discrimination that women experience;
- ☒ To broaden understanding of the impact of gender on the treatment of complaints;
- ☒ To improve knowledge of the motivations underlying the use of the law and of the expectations of the complainants;
- ☒ To test key theories concerning the effects of a ground specific approach to antidiscrimination legislation on the treatment of multiple discrimination based on 'race'/ethnicity and gender;
- ☒ To develop practical tools to assess the effectiveness of policies and practices in the field of antidiscrimination in order to take into account the intersectional dimension of discrimination.

## METHODOLOGY

The GendeRace project employs a combination of quantitative and qualitative research methods:

- ☒ Analysis of 914 discrimination claims/complaints from national equality bodies and NGOs has been undertaken. This has employed a gender perspective and has sought to explore reasons for the selection of a particular discrimination basis ('race' or gender) in filing the complaint/claim.
- ☒ 60 interviews have been conducted with lawyers dealing with complaints, stakeholders, policy-makers and women's and minority NGOs to identify difficulties and obstacles in the handling of multiple discrimination.
- ☒ 120 semi-directive interviews with women and men victims of discrimination have taken place to better understand motivations around complaints and events which made complainants feel discriminated against in a gender perspective.
- ☒ 6 workshops with stakeholders and experts have been carried out to discuss the main findings of the investigation and gather policy recommendations both at European and national levels.

## THE PROJECT

GendeRace began in February 2008 and will run until July 2010 in six European Member states: France, Bulgaria, Germany, Spain, Sweden and the UK.

The aim of the research is to evaluate the effectiveness of Racial Discrimination laws from the point of view of the target group and in a gender perspective. The main hypothesis is that differences can exist in the uses made of the law between men and women. This is because they develop different representations of the legal system and experience different forms of discrimination. The second hypothesis is that the intersectional experience of discrimination based on 'race' and gender is neither recognised nor treated properly in legal and institutional frameworks built around single types of discrimination, as discriminations are seen as one-dimensional and as affecting all people - men and women - in the same way.

The goal of the project is to improve understanding of the phenomenon of multiple discrimination ('race' and gender) and to develop practical tools to allow administrations, NGOs and specialised bodies to better assess the effectiveness of policies and practices in the field of antidiscrimination when faced with cases of such discrimination.