

## Motions

<b>Motion number</b>	17
<b>Name of the person introducing the Motion to the GA</b>	Women's Forum Joanie Willett
<b>Member party</b>	Mebyon Kernow
<b>Title (of the Motion)</b>	Collaborative and inclusive forms of political dialogue
<p>According to the United Nations, women's equal participation and leadership in political and public life are essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. However, women are underrepresented at all levels of decision-making worldwide. This ranges from women getting involved in politics, through to elected representatives.</p> <p>Despite making up half of the population, only 27.2% of Parliamentarians in single or lower houses are women. Up from 11% in 1995.</p> <p>There are only six countries globally where the number of women in parliament is the same, or more than the percentage of men. These are Rwanda, Cuba, Nicaragua, Andorra, Mexico, and the United Arab Emirates. Notably, this list does not include a single European nation.</p> <p>This means that within Europe, half of the population lacks adequate political representation, damaging the ability of our democratic systems to support the needs of all. This contributes to an overall lack of faith in democracy which is particularly problematic during a time when democracy as an institution is under threat.</p> <p>Evidence shows us that part of the issue is that much of the structure of politics tends to be combative (which, incidentally, is a style of political debate that does not suit all men, either). This makes it very hard for people who find conflict difficult, to participate in political discussions.</p> <p>Consequently, women face multiple barriers. Firstly, they find it difficult to get involved with political parties. Secondly, once involved, it is harder for women to put themselves forward as a political candidate, and thirdly, once elected it is difficult for women to engage in confrontational political styles. On top of this, people in public life face widespread abuse and threats from the public that they try to serve.</p> <p>Considering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. EFA's future lies in being able to appeal and be relevant to all voters in our regions</li> <li>2. This will only be possible if we create the kinds of space where everyone feels able to participate and be heard</li> <li>3. EFA needs to do more to ensure the representation of all within our political discourse.</li> </ol>	

The EFA Women's Forum proposes that

1. EFA resolve to develop, trial, and model more collaborative forms of political dialogue to ensure that we move towards a much more inclusive style of political discussion.
2. That EFA continues to work strongly to develop systems to support groups whose voices are currently less represented.
3. That EFA helps us all to develop the tools to be able to better navigate conflict.
4. That EFA ensures that it is able to take on board the whole range of ideas and suggestions from our members.