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The European Commission's Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities works towards the creation of more and better jobs, an inclusive society and equal opportunities for all.

Since 2000, in addition to laws covering the equal treatment of men and women, EU anti-discrimination legislation has been in place to ensure minimum levels of equal treatment and protection for everyone living and working in Europe. These laws are designed to ensure equal treatment irrespective of: racial or ethnic origin, religion and belief, disability, sexual orientation and age. Informing people of their rights and obligations under EU equality legislation is of key importance to the European Commission. Hence it provides information, raising awareness and training opportunities (through its PROGRESS funding program).