

PROJECT BULLETIN

**PREVENTING AND COMBATING  
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN UKRAINE**

Issue № 4 (April – August 2015)

This bulletin is also available in [Ukrainian](#)

APRIL TO AUGUST 2015



Round tables in Lviv and Kirovograd (pilot regions): Interagency cooperation on regional and local level in cases of domestic violence and violence against women took place on 20 and 24 April. Both events were organized in close cooperation with the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine and Lviv & Kirovograd Regional State Administrations of Ukraine. The event gathered representatives of local authorities, law enforcement agencies and local civil society sector, who discussed key principles and examples of good practice of coordinated responses for protection of victims of violence against women.



The CoE assessment report on compliance of selected Ukrainian laws with the Istanbul Convention presentation was held in Kyiv on 26 May. The Ambassador of Sweden to Ukraine, Mr von Beckerath, Verkhovna Rada MP Ms Lutsenko, the Vice-Minister of Social Policy, Mr Ustimenko and the CoE Head of Office, Mr Ristovski all stressed the importance of the project report. Mr Javier Truchero, CoE international expert, presented the main findings of the legislative assessment report and pointed to key recommendations pertaining to various aspects of the Istanbul Convention. The presentation was followed by a lively “question-answer” session, centred on possible ways to implement the recommendations contained in the report at national level.

A report on good practices and standards on violence against women and domestic violence was also presented by the project.



A meeting of the Istanbul Convention Interagency Working Group was hosted by the Ministry of Social Policy on 27 May. The objective of the meeting was to discuss further steps towards the ratification of the Istanbul Convention by Ukraine and possible ways of implementing the recommendations contained in the CoE “Assessment report on compliance of selected Ukrainian laws with the Istanbul Convention”.

On 17 June, the Parliamentary Hearing on “Family Policy in Ukraine – Goals and Objectives” was held at the Parliament of Ukraine (Verkhovna Rada). The importance of the Istanbul Convention for the protection of women’s human rights and the need for Ukraine to ratify it as well as need to criminalise domestic violence and other forms of violence against women were highlighted by several high level speakers. The CoE project findings were also presented by the project manager.

Several meetings of the Working Group on data collection on violence against women and domestic violence were held at the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine in Kyiv, with representatives of state agencies responsible for gathering data on cases of violence against women and domestic violence.



During the meetings, Irina Kalachova, Council of Europe expert, gave a presentation on the current system for collecting and

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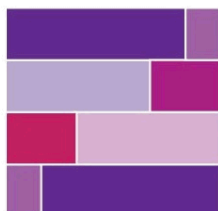
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analysing data regarding violence against women and domestic violence in Ukraine. The participants discussed the presentation, shared their own experiences and agreed to meet regularly in order to develop recommendations on how to bring Ukraine's data collection system in compliance with the requirements of the Istanbul Convention.

The [round table on "Preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence: on the path towards the ratification of the Istanbul Convention by Ukraine"](#) was organised together with the Parliamentary Committee on International Affairs in Kyiv on 2 July.



The event was attended by several members of the Ukrainian Parliament, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsperson), Valeriia Lutkovska, the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Serhii Kyslytsia, and the Deputy Minister of Social Policy, Serhii Ustymenko. Representatives of other state agencies of Ukraine, civil society, academics, as well as Council of Europe officials were among the participants. MP Iryna Lutsenko, Chair of the Subcommittee on international law issues and parliamentary control over the compliance of Ukraine's international obligations, run the discussions. The main topic was the ratification and further implementation by Ukraine of the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.

A [study visit on data collection on violence against women and children](#) took place in Madrid from 6 to 10 July. The members of the delegation were representatives of state agencies responsible for gathering information on cases of violence against women and children.



The study visit aim was to help the Ukrainian authorities define a set of minimum common data categories required for collecting comprehensive public data on violence against women and domestic violence in Ukraine as well as to strengthen their capacities to conduct research and collect and analyse data on violence against women and domestic violence.

The Project team also provided technical assistance and expert support to the meetings of the working group on criminal and criminal procedural legislation of Ukraine (25 May 2015) and the working group on the Draft Law on Domestic Violence and relevant amendments to the Ukrainian legislation (13 May, 15-16 May, 19 June, 4 August 2015). These groups are finalising the draft amendments to the Ukrainian legislation with a view to ratifying the Istanbul convention.

### Resources

More information on the project activities as well as all project publications are available at the [Project website](#) in both English and Ukrainian. The latest publications include:

- ✚ [Assessment report](#) on compliance of selected Ukrainian laws with the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)
- ✚ [Good international practices and standards](#) on violence against women and domestic violence
- ✚ Prevention of violence against women: [Article 12](#) of the Istanbul Convention;
- ✚ Raising awareness of violence against women: [Article 13](#) of the Istanbul Convention;
- ✚ Domestic and sexual violence perpetrator programmes: [Article 16](#) of the Istanbul Convention.

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