

HEARING “ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR WOMEN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE”

Programme
Paris, 9 December 2013

Organised by the
Gender Equality Commission
of the Council of Europe
with the French Ministry of Women's Rights



Monday, 9 December 2013

8.30 – 9.00 am

Registration of participants

Opening Session

Moderator: Ms Liri Kopaçi – Di Michele (Head of the Gender Equality and Violence against Women Division)

9.00 – 9.40 am

Opening speeches:

- Ms Nathalie Tournyol du Clos (Head of the Women's Rights Department at the Ministry of Women's Rights, France)
- Ms Carlien Scheele (Chairperson of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission, the Netherlands)

Session 1

Setting the scene: Women's Access to Justice

Moderator: Mr Alexis Rinckenbach (Head of European and International Affairs, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health / Ministry of Women's Rights, France)

9.40 – 10.00 am

Feasibility study on equal access of women to justice – an overview of observations and proposals.

- Ms Kevät Nousiainen (Turku University, Finland)

Session 2

Access to justice for women victims of violence

Moderator: Ms Antje Wunderlich (Member of the Gender Equality Commission, Germany)

10.00 – 10.20 am

Main standards contained in the Istanbul Convention on access to justice for women victims of violence.

- Ms Marceline Naudi (University of Malta, former member of CAHVIO)

10.20 – 10.40 am

A Civil Society Perspective on equal access of women to justice.

- Ms Gauri van Gulik (Human Rights Watch)

10.40 – 11.00 am

The case-law of the European Court of Human Rights.

- Ms Ramona Toma (Lawyer at the European Court of Human Rights)

11.00 – 11.15 am

Coffee break

Session 3

Socio-economic and cultural barriers to equal access to justice for women victims of violence

Moderator: Ms Karine Lempen (Lawyer, Federal Department of Home Affairs, Switzerland)

11.15 – 11.45 am

Addressing the socio-economic and cultural barriers.

- Ms Rosa Logar (Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre, Vienna)

Testimony:

- Ms Véronique Arbez (accompanied by the *Fédération Nationale Solidarité Femme*, France)

11.45 – 12.30 pm

Practices and examples from member states of the Council of Europe:

- Ms Elisabeth Moiron-Braud (Secretary General of the Inter-Ministerial Mission for the Protection of Women Victims of Violence, France)
- Ms Aurela Anastas (Executive Director of the Centre for Legal Civic Initiatives, Albania)
- Ms Helena Štimac Radin (Head of the Office for Gender Equality, Croatia)

12.30 – 1.00 pm

Discussion

1.00 – 2.00 pm

Lunch

Session 4

Legal and procedural barriers to equal access to justice for women victims of violence

Moderator: Ms Katarzyna Wolska-Wrona (Chief Legal Officer, Office of the Government Plenipotentiary for Equal Treatment, Poland)

2.00 – 3.00 pm

Addressing the legal and procedural barriers for women victims of violence to have access to justice: civil and criminal cases.

- Ms Katie Dawson (Lawyer, Ireland)
- Ms Hilary Fisher (Director of Policy, Voice and Membership, Women's Aid Federation, England)

Testimonies:

- Ms Alexis Bowater (United Kingdom)
- Ms Svetlana Aleshnya (accompanied by La Cimade, France)

3.00 – 3.45 pm

Practices and examples from member states of the Council of Europe:

- Mr Nazir Afzal (Chief Crown Prosecutor, United Kingdom)
- Mr Julio García Jiménez (Government-delegation for Gender-based Violence, Spain)
- Ms Sylvie Moisson (Prosecutor, France)

3.45 – 4.00 pm

Coffee break

4.00 – 4.30 pm

Discussion

Closing session

Moderator: Ms Carlien Scheele (Chairperson of the Gender Equality Commission, the Netherlands)

4.30 – 4.45 pm

Conclusions

4.45 – 5.15 pm

Closing remarks by:

- Ms Sabine Fourcade (Interministerial Delegate for Women's Rights and Gender Equality, Director General of Social Cohesion, France)
- Ms Ursula Plassnik (Ambassador of Austria in Paris, representing the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe)

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