



Steps in the first (baseline) evaluation procedure of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)

Evaluations are carried out on a country-by-country basis. The procedure is triggered by GREVIO when it sends its questionnaire to the state parties concerned (in accordance with its evaluation timetable).

The procedure aims to gather as much information as possible (see Steps 1 and 2 below) and is dialogue oriented (see Steps 2, 3, 4 and 5 below).

According to the timetable, it will take GREVIO 17 months to complete the full procedure, from sending the questionnaire to publishing the GREVIO report.

Step 1: Reporting and information gathering

Requests for state reports are sent to state parties indicating the deadline for submission (see provisional timetable).

GREVIO begins to look into information from non-governmental organisations (NGOs), other members of civil society, national human rights institutions, Council of Europe bodies (Parliamentary Assembly, Human Rights Commissioner, and other pertinent bodies) as well as other international treaty bodies.

State reports are published on the Istanbul Convention website (www.coe.int/conventionviolence) unless, following a reasoned request from the State, GREVIO decides otherwise.

Information received from NGOs and other civil society actors, as well as national human rights institutions is treated as confidential unless, following a request from the body providing the text, GREVIO decides otherwise. Such information can be published by the bodies concerned on their websites.

Step 2: State dialogue

Two members of GREVIO, appointed as Rapporteurs, identify the issues arising from the state report (or from any additional information) and state representatives are invited to Strasbourg to discuss these issues with GREVIO.

Step 3: Evaluation visit

In order to make a thorough assessment of the situation on the ground, a delegation of GREVIO carries out a visit of five days, on average, to the country concerned. The delegation is generally made up of the two Rapporteurs and one or two members of the Secretariat, and when necessary, specialists assist the delegation. During these visits, the delegation meets with governmental officials, relevant professionals (social workers, health care staff, police officers, prosecutors and judges etc), representatives of NGOs and other civil society interlocutors and whenever possible/necessary visits relevant facilities (for example, women's shelters, police stations, hospital facilities).

Step 4: Preparing the draft GREVIO report

On the basis of all the information collected, GREVIO prepares the draft evaluation report, which is later discussed and approved at a subsequent GREVIO meeting.

The draft report is then transmitted to the state party concerned for comments (as a general rule within two months of transmission).

Step 5: Preparing and adopting the GREVIO report

Government comments on the draft report are taken into consideration by GREVIO when finalising its report which is later adopted by GREVIO.

Step 6: Publication and dissemination of the GREVIO report

GREVIO's evaluation report is then transmitted to the state party concerned which once again has the opportunity to provide comments (as a general rule within one month of transmission).

Past the deadline, the GREVIO report together with any final comments received from the state party concerned is published and transmitted to the Committee of the Parties,

Step 7: Follow-up to the GREVIO report

The Committee of the Parties may adopt a recommendation based on GREVIO's report.

The state party concerned adopts measures on the basis of GREVIO's report and implements any recommendations of the Committee of the Parties.

The state party concerned submits GREVIO's report to its parliament(s) in order that it may participate in monitoring implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

For more information concerning the evaluation procedure, see

- **Article 68 of the Convention and**
- **Title II (Evaluation procedure) in GREVIO's Rules of Procedure.**

A graphical representation of the workflow of the first (baseline) evaluation procedure is also available, see document IC/Inf(2016)3.

Secretariat of the monitoring mechanism of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

www.coe.int/conventionviolence

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