



Workshop on the Istanbul Convention and its monitoring mechanism

Organised by
the Council of Europe together with the Public Defender's Office of Georgia

19 June 2018

Radisson Blu Iveria Hotel, 1 Rose Revolution Square Tbilisi, Georgia

With an interpretation Georgian-English-Georgian

The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (known as the Istanbul Convention) is the most comprehensive international treaty to tackle this serious violation of human rights. Preventing violence, protecting victims and prosecuting the perpetrators are the cornerstones of the Convention.

The Parliament of Georgia has confirmed their commitment to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence by ratifying the Istanbul Convention and adopting a milestone legal framework aimed at the harmonisation of the domestic legislation with the Istanbul Convention: a package of amendments to 24 laws accompanying the Convention was adopted in May 2017.

Within the framework of the implementation and monitoring of the Istanbul Convention, the Council of Europe and the Public Defender's Office of Georgia are organising a capacity building workshop for the staff members of the Public Defender's Office and relevant NGOs. The workshop will be also open for relevant government representatives and public officials.

The workshop will cover the Istanbul Convention and its main standards with the specific focus on the monitoring process of the Istanbul Convention (GREVIO and the Committee of the Parties): the role of GREVIO, states, NGOs and Ombudsperson's office, including best practices and lessons learnt from the countries which have already been monitored by the GREVIO. The workshop will also include a group work activity on the Article 10 of the Istanbul Convention which obliges states to establish national co-ordinating bodies responsible for the coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Convention together with relevant stakeholders, including NGOs.

The workshop aims to provide relevant information on the Istanbul Convention and on the monitoring process of the Convention. Feedback on the workshop will be gathered at the end of the event.

Several materials and publications on the Istanbul Convention will be available in Georgian at the event and a workshop summary will be compiled after the event and shared with the participants and relevant stakeholders.

Programme

Facilitator and moderator: *Ms Sopo Japaridze, Assistant to the Prime Minister on Human Rights and Gender Equality Issues, Chairperson of the Inter-agency Commission on Gender Equality, Violence against Women and Domestic Violence*

9:30 – 10:00	Registration of participants and coffee
10:00 – 10:30	Opening – welcoming addresses <i>- Mr Cristian Urse, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Georgia</i> <i>- Ms Nino Lomjaria, Public Defender of Georgia</i>
10:30 – 11:15	Introduction to the Istanbul Convention as a tool to combat violence against women and domestic violence – the main standards of the Convention <i>Ms Biljana Brankovic, GREVIO member</i> Discussion
11:15 – 12:00	The importance of monitoring – the monitoring mechanism of the Istanbul Convention: The Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO): best practices from the countries monitored, monitoring methodology and reporting <i>Ms Biljana Brankovic, GREVIO member</i>
12:00 – 12:20	The Committee of the Parties <i>Ms Eliso Shonia, Member to the Committee of the Parties, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Georgia</i>
12:20 – 13:00	Discussion
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:45	The role of NGOs in the monitoring of the Istanbul Convention, including NGO shadow reporting – experiences and lessons learnt from Austria <i>Ms Kerstin Schinnerl, Domestic Abuse Intervention Center Vienna, Austria; in charge of compiling the NGO Shadow Report for GREVIO in Austria</i>
14:45 – 15:15	Discussion
15:15 – 15:45	Introduction to the national Co-ordinating body (the Article 10) of the Istanbul Convention and a group work activity After the introductions to the topic, participants will reflect in small groups the examples of coordinating bodies from different countries.
15:45 – 16:15	Coffee break
16:15 – 17:00	Previous session continues
17:00 – 17:30	Closing – concluding remarks and feedback forms <i>- Ms Sara Haapalainen, Policy Advisor, Capacity Building and Co-operation Projects Unit, Equality Division, Council of Europe</i> <i>- Ms Anna Iluridze, Head of the Gender Equality Department, Office of Public Defender of Georgia</i>