



# The Istanbul Convention

Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence

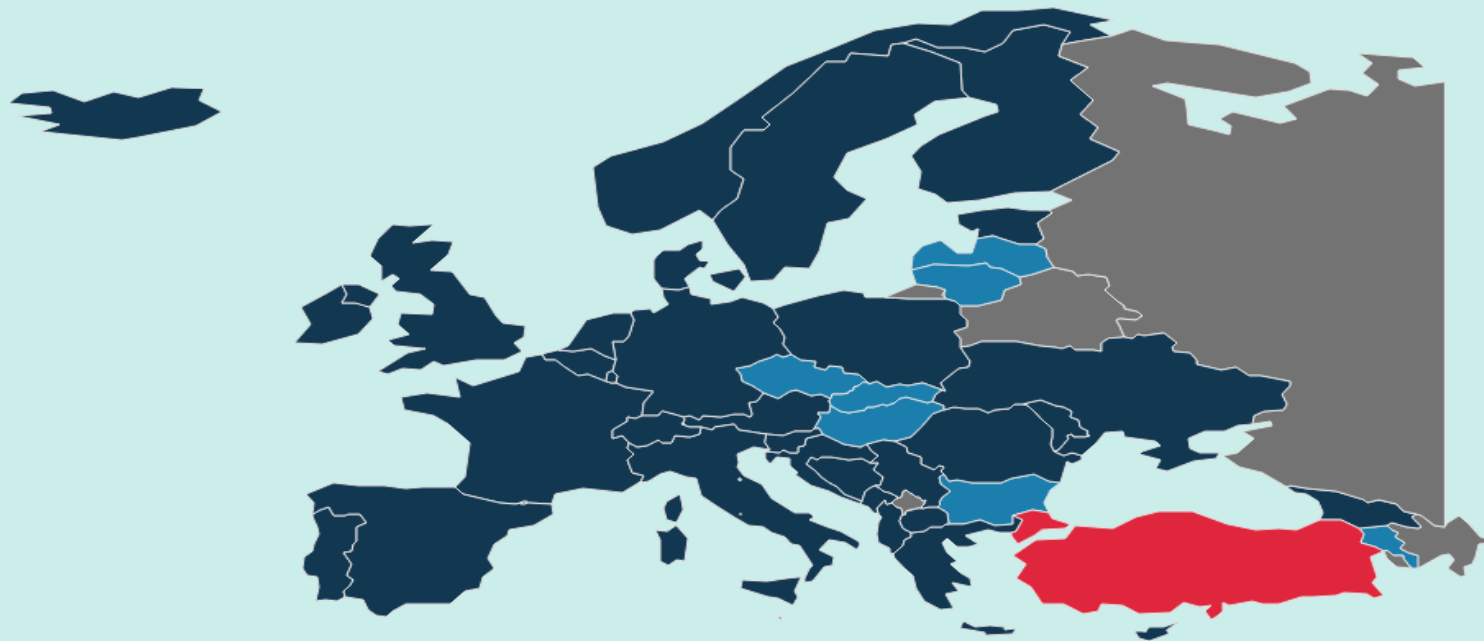
COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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# Signature and ratification

The Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention on violence against women



● Ratified/In force ● Signed but not ratified ● Not signed ● Withdrawn

\*The EU as a whole signed the convention on 13/06/2017, but has not yet ratified it; source = [Council of Europe](#) (last updated 22/07/22)

# The Content of the Convention: An approach based on “4 Ps”

## Prevention

Preventives measures aiming at changing attitudes and gender roles that make VAW acceptable: campaigns, education, involving men and boys, training of professionals, data collection

## Protection

The general obligation to protect victims from further violence and to set up support services for them and their children: counseling, psychological support, shelters, national helpline

## Istanbul Convention

## Prosecution

The existence of procedures and legislation ensuring the prosecution of perpetrators: criminal offences, appropriate sanctions, swift investigations, risk assessment, protection orders

## Integrated Policies

Adoption of policies enabling that all the above measures become part of a coordinated and holistic response to all forms of VAW and domestic violence

## Forms of VaW covered by the IC:

- Domestic violence (Art. 2-1)
- Psychological violence (Art. 33)
- Stalking (Art. 34)
- Physical violence (Art. 35)
- Sexual violence, including rape (Art. 36)
- Forced marriage (Art. 37)
- Female genital mutilation (Art. 38)
- Forced abortion and forced sterilisation (Art. 39)
- Sexual harassment (Art. 40)

# Article 14 - Education

1. Parties shall take, where appropriate, the necessary steps to include teaching material on issues such as equality between women and men, non-stereotyped gender roles, mutual respect, non-violent conflict resolution in interpersonal relationships, gender-based violence against women and the right to personal integrity, adapted to the evolving capacity of learners, in formal curricula and at all levels of education.

2. Parties shall take the necessary steps to promote the principles referred to in paragraph 1 in informal educational facilities, as well as in sports, cultural and leisure facilities and the media.

# Preventing VaW through Formal and Informal Education: Art. 14 of the IC

- Published in March 2022
- Provides explanation of the Convention, examples and promising practices
- Parties have focused on formal and informal education settings (children/youth), rather than sport/media/culture/leisure sectors
- only some of the Parties reviewed by GREVIO have addressed the obligation under Art. 14(2)
- Albania: application for football fans (primarily men and boys) with materials on gender equality and an interactive football quiz

# The Istanbul Convention monitoring mechanism: a two-pillar system

## GREVIO:

- **monitors the implementation** of the Convention **on a country-by-country basis**
- may adopt appropriate, **general recommendations** on themes and concepts of the Convention
- may open a **special inquiry procedure**

## Committee of the Parties:

- **follows up on GREVIO** reports/findings and **adopts recommendations to Parties** concerned and supervises their implementation by adopting **conclusions**
- it is responsible for the **election of GREVIO members**



# VaW and/in sport

- **UK (LSE)**: research work linking the starting time of a football match and rising rates of VaW
- **GER**: violence by football players against their wives/girlfriends (“silencing” contracts)
- **GREVIO report on Iceland**: new post since 2020: “Sports and Youth Activities Communication Counsellor” (independent entity) to assist and guide victims. 79 complaints in 2021 (30 for sexual harassment or violence; not broken down sex/age).
- Obligation for institutions, CSOs, sports and youth organisations to take measures to protect their employees and clients from GBV in the workplace



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**INTERNATIONAL DAY  
FOR THE ELIMINATION  
OF VIOLENCE  
AGAINST WOMEN**

**#IstanbulConventionSavesLives**



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