

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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**Steps in the first evaluation procedure
of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing
and Combating Violence against Women
and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention)**

Document prepared by the Secretariat of the Istanbul Convention

1. Reporting

- Request for a state report sent to two state parties at a time indicating the deadline for submission (generally four months); GREVIO to nominate country rapporteurs;
- State reports to be made public, in principle, upon receipt by GREVIO;
- NGOs and civil society to be strongly encouraged to submit information (e.g. shadow reporting).¹

2. Preliminary examination: discussion within GREVIO

- Discussion of the state reports and any other information received or available (NGOs, civil society, treaty bodies, etc).

3. Examination with state representatives

- Examination of state reports and discussion of main areas of concern with a delegation from the state parties concerned;

4. Possible country visit (if GREVIO so decides)

- visits to be organised by Secretariat in co-operation with country rapporteurs and national contact persons (as well as, where appropriate, with independent national experts);
- purpose of country visit: to obtain information on the practical implementation of the Convention and to clarify any remaining issues.

5. GREVIO draft report

- first draft report prepared by Secretariat in close co-operation with country rapporteurs on the basis of all information available (state report, NGO reports, discussion with state representatives, country visit, other);
- draft report discussed and approved at subsequent GREVIO meeting;
- draft report to be sent to state parties concerned for comments.

6. Final GREVIO report

- any comments on the draft report received to be considered for final GREVIO report;
- final GREVIO report to be adopted at GREVIO meeting together with conclusions;
- final GREVIO report and conclusions to be sent to
 - the state parties concerned, opportunity for governments to provide final comments within one month of transmission;
 - Committee of the Parties after receipt of and with final comments from the state parties concerned;
- Publication of final GREVIO report together with any final comments provided by state parties concerned;
- GREVIO to ensure that final report is submitted to parliament by state parties concerned.

¹ In this respect, GREVIO may decide to hear NGOs at any point of the evaluation procedure.

7. Adoption of recommendations to state party by Committee of the Parties

- Discussion of GREVIO report and conclusions on state parties concerned in meeting of the Committee of the Parties;
- Committee of the Parties recommendations made on the basis of the reports and conclusions of GREVIO;
- The Committee of the Parties may adopt two types of recommendations:
 - on measures to be taken by the Party to implement the conclusions of GREVIO;
 - to promote co-operation with that Party for the proper implementation of the Convention.
- Committee of the Parties to supervise the implementation of its recommendations.

8. Implementation of CoP recommendations by the state party

- CoP to review any follow-up measures requested;
- GREVIO to decide on follow-up measures if necessary.

9. Stock-taking of implementation by Parliamentary Assembly

- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe shall be invited to take stock of implementation of the Convention on the basis of GREVIO reports and CoP recommendations (Article 70 paragraph 3 of the Convention).

Indicative time-line for the first evaluation procedure of the Istanbul Convention

Parties to the Convention	Questionnaire to be sent	Deadline for reports	Preliminary examination by GREVIO	Examination with state reps	Possible country visit	GREVIO draft report	GREVIO final report	Adoption of recommendations by CoP
Austria Monaco	March 2016	Sept 2016	Sept 2016	Nov 2016	Dec 2016	March 2017	July 2017	Sept/Oct 2017
Denmark Albania	Sept 2016	Jan 2017	Feb 2017	March 2017	May 2017	Sept 2017	Jan 2018	possibly March 2018
Montenegro Turkey	Feb 2017	June 2017	July 2017	Sept 2017	Nov 2017	Feb 2018	June 2018	possibly Sept 2018
Sweden Portugal	July 2017	Nov 2017	Jan 2018	Feb 2018	April 2018	July 2018	Dec 2018	possibly Feb 2019