

Committee of the Parties



Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)

Conclusions on the implementation of
recommendations in respect of Cyprus
adopted by the Committee of the Parties
to the Istanbul Convention

IC-CP(2026)5

Adopted on 2 June 2026

The Committee of the Parties to the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), acting under the terms of Article 68(12) of the Convention and Rule 1(2b) of the Committee of the Parties’ Rules of Procedure;

Bearing in mind the provisions of Article 66(1) of the Convention concerning the monitoring role of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereinafter referred to as “GREVIO”);

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Parties;

Having regard to the instrument of ratification deposited by Cyprus on 10 November 2017;

Having regard to the Baseline Evaluation Report concerning the implementation of the Convention by Cyprus adopted by GREVIO at its 28th meeting (10-13 October 2022) as well as the comments of the Government received on 22 November 2022;

Having regard to the recommendation on the implementation of the Convention addressed to Cyprus by the Committee of the Parties, published on 12 December 2022;

Bearing in mind the adoption, at its 9th meeting on 15 December 2020, of a reporting form which focuses on a maximum of ten areas of the Convention and which states are required to use to report back to the Committee of the Parties on measures taken to implement the recommendations addressed to their authorities;

Having examined the information provided by Cyprus on the implementation of the recommendation addressed to its authorities, through the reporting form provided for that purpose, and taking into account other available information;

A. Welcomes the measures taken and progress achieved by Cyprus in the implementation of recommendations for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention, noting in particular:

- the adoption of the first National Strategy and the first National Action Plan (2023-2028) for the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against women based on the four pillars of the Istanbul Convention in 2023;
- the increase in funding allocated to preventing and combating all forms of violence against women, including for the national co-ordinating body as well as for the multi-agency crisis centre for victims of violence called Women’s House, while also adopting a special grant scheme for programmes and action provided by registered NGO’s;
- the initiation of a national study on the prevalence and impact of gender-based violence affecting vulnerable groups of women, including asylum seekers, migrants and refugees;
- the efforts made to expand the specialist investigation units on domestic violence to handle cases beyond domestic violence, including harassment, stalking, and other offences related to violence against women, as well as the increased training provided to the members of these units;
- the introduction in 2023 of standard operating procedures for the identification of vulnerable persons, including women and girls victim of gender-based violence, upon arrival, or swiftly thereafter, at the Pournara First Reception Centre.

B. Encourages the Government of Cyprus to take further measures to implement the recommendations addressed to its authorities, in particular by:

1. ensuring that the provisions of the Istanbul Convention are implemented without discrimination on any grounds listed in Article 4, paragraph 3, when it comes to access for all women, including domestic workers, asylum-seeking and/or migrant women and women living in rural areas, to specialised support services;

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2. ensuring the collection of systematic and comparable data on all forms of violence against women, from all relevant administrative sources, disaggregated by all relevant categories, including establishing a centralised database;
 3. continuing the efforts to introduce a legislative requirement for family judges to take into account, in the determination of custody and visitation rights of children, incidents of violence covered by the scope of the Istanbul Convention;
 4. aligning Cypriot law and practice with the requirements of Articles 52 and 53 of the Istanbul Convention by enabling the competent authorities in situations of immediate danger to evict a perpetrator of domestic violence from the shared residence while also enabling the victim to apply under civil law for further protection through restraining orders; in parallel, ensuring that such orders are monitored and enforced and sanctions for breaches are effectively applied in practice;
 5. developing and implementing guidelines on the gender-sensitive reception of women and girls seeking asylum and on the prevention of gender-based violence against women and girls in asylum accommodation.
- C. Invites the Government of Cyprus to report back on these measures by 1 June 2028.
- D. Invites the Government of Cyprus to continue taking measures to implement the Istanbul Convention, particularly on the basis of the conclusions of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report.